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# ARAB TIMES



Philippine President Corason Aquino answers a reporter's question during her weekly news conference at the presidential palace yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Pakistan raising nuclear profile

NEW DELHI, May 28, (Reuters): An Indian defence expert said today Pakistan was raising its nuclear profile to be able to hold out a credible threat to India in case the two countries go to war over Kashmir.

Retired Air Commodore Jasjit Singh was commenting on a London newspaper report which said the US and Soviet governments feared a nuclear war between India and Pakistan.

Singh, head of the Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis, said the report quoting US intelligence sources confirmed that Pakistan was already a nuclear weapons state or very close to being one.

In Islamabad, a Foreign Ministry official denied Pakistan possessed nuclear arms but diplomats said the nuclear option remained one of the greatest fears.

"It scares me to death," said one Islamabad-based European diplomat. "It seems hard to believe that either side would be so stupid but war is not rational."

An Indian Defence Ministry spokesman declined comment. The consensus in Delhi appeared to be that any conflict between India and Pakistan would be unlikely to go nuclear.

"The possibility of use is very low, Pakistan cannot risk it. Its friends will not allow it to happen. Nuclear is a political weapon. Its political value must be exploited. It is useless once it has been used," Singh said.

"The use of nuclear weapons would be an act of such desperate lunacy it is almost inconceivable," a senior Western diplomat said.

"Military preparations on both sides so far are defensive and responsibly so," he added. "I think it's a bit far-fetched."

"We are still several turns of the racket away from a war and war is still unlikely," he said.

## King Hussein urges to use oil weapon; we have weapons of total destruction: Saddam

# We'll hit hard, Arabs warn US, Israel

Arafat calls for revival of Joint Defence Council; Mubarak tries to calm Arab alarm at Jewish influx

**BAGHDAD, May 28, (Agencies): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, relishing his role as Arab champion against Israel and the West, mocked the United States at an Arab summit in Baghdad today.**

Defying Washington's advice to restrain his language, he repeated threats to retaliate in kind if Israel launched a chemical

or nuclear attack on any Arab country.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak urged the Arabs to send the world "a humane and rational message" in a conciliatory speech which contrasted with the Iraqi leader's combative tone.

"If Israel attacks, we will hit back strongly, and if it uses weapons of total destruction against our (Arab) nation, we will use against it the weapons of total destruction which we have. There can be no concessions on liberating Palestine," Saddam told the opening summit session.

Five heads of state have stayed away, including Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, who has dismissed the gathering as an Iraqi propaganda stunt.

Sniping at Washington's policies, the Iraqi president said an Israeli attack would not be possible without support from US imperialism.

"And I add the word imperialism now... after I read the US State Department's note, which advised us against using the expression," he said.

"We Arabs are the target for these American policies and we must tell America, frankly that it can't continue this policy while claiming friendship with the Arabs," he added.

## Senator shot dead

Pakistan toll rises to 152; President blames police

**KARACHI, May 28, (Agencies):** Marauding gunmen today killed 15 more people including a leading opposition senator in a continuing wave of bloodshed that has gripped Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's home province, authorities said.

Senator Mohsin Siddiqui was shot and killed while going to a hospital to visit survivors of sniper attacks yesterday.

The 65-year-old legislator's death intensified calls by his Pakistan Muslim League and other opposition parties for the federal government to declare a state of emergency in southern Sindh province, governed by Benazir's Pakistan People's Party.

At least 14 other people were shot and killed and 40 others wounded today in sniper shootings and clashes between rival ethnic groups and security forces deployed throughout Karachi, authorities said.



IRA claims

The Irish Republican Army (IRA) claimed responsibility on Monday for killing two Australian tourists in the Netherlands and said the men had been mistaken for British soldiers.

The IRA said in a statement issued to the media in Dublin that it regretted the deaths.

The two men, who had been travelling in a British-registered car, were shot dead by masked men in the southern Dutch town of Roermond on Sunday night.

Picture shows the body of one lying in the back of the car (Reuters wirephoto)

## Three released in kidnap case

After questioning

By Fathima Ahmed Arab Times Staff

**KUWAIT, May 28, (UPI):** Security forces on Sunday released three men after questioning them in the case of a 15-year-old Kuwaiti girl who was abducted from the airport car park last week, sources said.

The girl's father, who works as a driver in a Kuwaiti home, was called to identify the suspects. The father told police that the detained suspects were not the ones involved in the crime.

The 13-year-old girl, who was yesterday released from hospital following treatment, had come to Kuwait on a holiday. On the day of the incident, the girl and her father were stopped by three men, posing as airport security.

The father was asked to accompany one of the men to "sort out the girl's visa papers," which the man claimed were not in order. After the man took the father to the arrivals lounge, the girl was abducted.

## Govt to sell shares

**KUWAIT, May 28, (Kuna):** Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi said today the government will soon transfer its shareholdings in 13 closed firms to the private sector as recommended by an economic committee last year.

Khorafi, in a statement to Kuna, said the transfer will be implemented within the few coming days by the Public Authority for Investment, the government's investment tool at home.

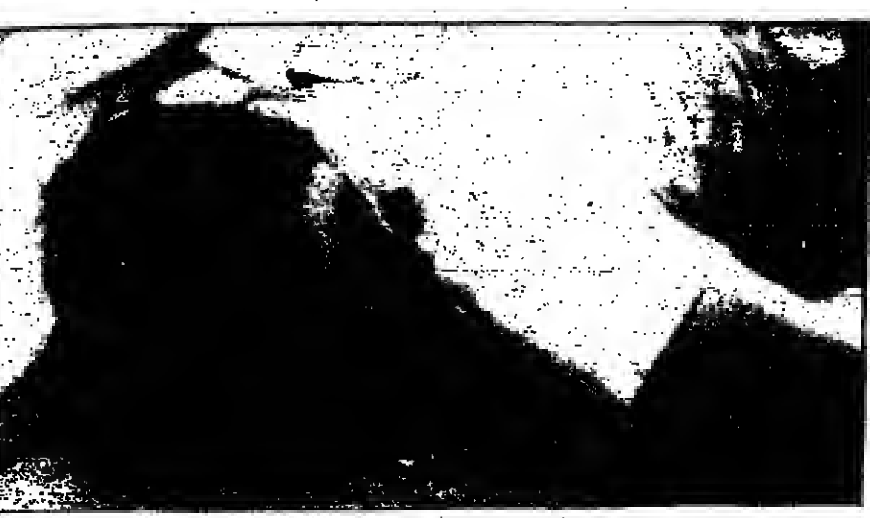
The plan would be begun with the sale of the government's shareholdings in some closed and unlisted companies so that the sale would not affect trading on the stock market.

## Mandela hospitalised

**JOHANNESBURG, May 28, (UPI):** Black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela has been hospitalised in a private Johannesburg clinic, apparently suffering a prostate problem, state-run television reported tonight.

The television bulletin said the 71-year-old Mandela, who underwent prostate surgery several years ago, was hospitalised last night.

## Twenty-two dead in Armenian clashes



An Armenian driver lays in a pool of blood after being fatally wounded during skirmishes. (Reuters wirephoto)

### 'Call for resolute measures'

**MOSCOW, May 28, (Agencies):** Soviet troops killed 20 Armenians and lost two from their own ranks in clashes with militants that turned nationalist celebrations into a day of mourning today, the Armenpress news agency said.

Armenian Communist Party chief Vladimir Morsisyan appeared on television and described yesterday's clashes at Yerevan railway station and near an army base to the south as a "tragic day for Armenia," an Armenpress journalist said.

"Instead of independence day celebrations, we have a day of mourning. I call on people to show restraint," Armenpress quoted Morsisyan as saying.

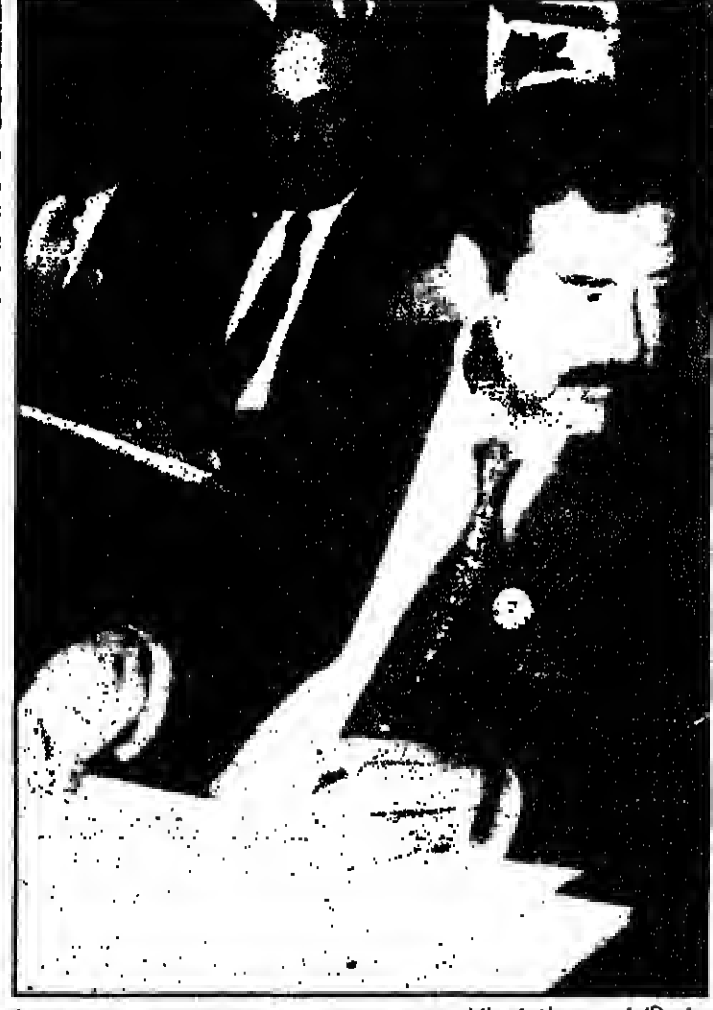
General Yuri Shatalov, commander of Soviet interior troops, accused Armenian

authorities of not doing enough against the militants and called for "resolute measures" to disarm them.

"Our troops do not want this bloodshed, but the terrorists are forcing them into it," he said.

Shatalov, who flew to Yerevan at the weekend, said he had met leaders of armed Armenian groups who refused his request that they surrender their weapons. Tass reported.

This afternoon, more than 100,000 people held a rally to mark the anniversary of the short-lived independent Armenian republic, founded in 1918 and crushed by Russian Bolshevik troops two years later.



Saddam Hussein during the opening ceremony of the Arab summit (Reuters wirephoto)



Mubarak during the opening ceremony of the Arab summit (Reuters wirephoto)

## Israel assures Jordan

### We won't attack

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 28, (AP):** A senior aide to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir today assured Jordan's King Hussein that Israel is not threatening the Hashemite kingdom.

The assurance followed a speech by Hussein to Arab leaders meeting in Baghdad in which the monarch appealed for military and economic help.

Yossi Ben-Aharon, Shamir's office director, also said Israel was taking seriously threats by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to use "weapons of total destruction" against the Jewish state in response to a similar attack on Iraq.

He added that "Saddam has shown that he is true to his word, that he has not hesitated to use weapons of mass destruction" during the Gulf war.

In an interview with the Associated Press, Ben-Aharon focused on a speech by King Hussein, who appealed to Arab leaders to help Jordan beef up its wavering economy and buttress its military power. Hussein warned that "abandoning Jordan is abandoning Palestine."

## Gulf oil producers ready to stabilise market

**BAGHDAD, May 28, (Reuters):** United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba said today that three major Gulf Arab producers were ready to act to prop up faltering oil prices.

"We are always ready to do what we see fit to restore stability to the petroleum market," Oteiba told Reuters after a meeting with the oil ministers of Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

He would not say what action the three would take. Their meeting took place on the sidelines of an Arab summit meeting which opened in Baghdad today.

Gulf oil officials said before the summit that Iraq and other Arab oil exporters, hurting from low prices, might use the Baghdad meeting to tackle over-production by some Gulf members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Opec's 13 oil ministers agreed earlier this month to cut output by six per cent to reverse a 25 per cent slide in world oil prices this year.

The sources say effective Opec cuts totalled 700,000 to 900,000 bpd compared with the promised 1.445 million bpd for the May-July period.

## Weather

**HOT** summer weather with moderate north westerly wind may freshen at times.

State of sea: moderate to rough

High water: 4.15 am, 2.16 pm

Low water: 9.00 am, 10.13 pm

Sunrise: 4.50 am

Sunset: 6.41 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 45°C (113°F)

Ahmad: 41°C (106°F)

Falaka: 41°C (106°F)

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 45°C (113°F)

Ahmad: 42°C (108°F)

Falaka: 42°C (108°F)

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 26°C (79°F)

Ahmad: 30°C (86°F)

Falaka: 27°C (81°F)

Maximum humidity recorded:


Kuwait: 17 per cent

Ahmad: 41 per cent

Falaka: 35 per cent

(Continued on Page 2)





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## U.A.S. Graduation Ceremony

The Universal American School 1990 commencement exercises will be held at Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel on Saturday, June 2, 1990 at 8:00 pm, instead of Sabah Al Salem Auditorium at Kuwait University as previously announced.

This is due to unforeseen circumstances.

INTERNATIONAL

# Summit

over its drive to develop advanced military industries.

Egypt and other pro-Western Arab countries have been trying to curb some of the anti-American rhetoric which Iraqi radicals inserted at a foreign ministers' meeting last week.

Jordan's King Hussein, in his speech to the summit, said the influx of Jews was a danger to all Arabs. Jordan, as a financially exhausted frontline state, needed urgent help.

"It is crystal clear that Jordan alone...cannot withstand the Israeli threat. We have exhausted all our material resources over and above the burden of our national debt," he said.

King Hussein urged Arabs to use their oil wealth to influence world politics. The Jordanian monarch noted: "Our region contains 65 per cent of the oil reserves in the world, and through the Gulf pass 40 per cent of oil shipments....

These resources, he said, "if properly utilised... place us



Assad (right) and Khaddafi at Damascus airport before Ghaddafi left for the Arab Summit. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Armenia

(Continued from Page 1)

Armenpress described the meeting as sombre and said a planned march had been called off. Funerals were expected to take place tomorrow.

"Military vehicles are still moving through the streets, but they are not in the city centre," an Armenpress journalist said.

President Mikhail Gorbachev's political reforms have unleashed fierce nationalist resentments in the Transcaucasus region, suppressed by decades of Soviet leadership.

Hundreds have died in ethnic clashes but the latest eruption, along with peaceful rebellion in the Baltic and economic crisis in Russia's heartland, poses serious problems for Moscow.

The Armenian Interior Ministry told Reuters by telephone that six armed Armenian militants were killed early yesterday when they opened fire on troops escorting a train into Yerevan station. One soldier died in the attack.

Armenpress and the independent Interfax news agency said 14 people, including a soldier, were killed and dozens injured in a gunfight near the local Soviet army headquarters at Yerevan, south of Yerevan, last evening.

The Armenian National Movement (ANM) said the dead included a 13-year-old girl and that 30 civilians were injured in crossfire.

The ANM said its headquarters also came under fire from troops and a man sleeping in a car outside was killed.

"The car was riddled with bullets. The front of the building is also pitted with the impact of bullets," an ANM spokesman said by telephone. "This is all a provocation to wreck out independence day celebrations."

An earthquake rumbled across northern Armenia last night in the same region that was devastated by the December 1988 quake that killed 25,000 people, the Tass said.

among the vigorous powers within the movement of history.

King Hussein defended Iraq against accusations that it was seeking to produce weapons of mass destruction, but Mubarak suggested, instead, a "nuclear, chemical and biological weapons-free Middle East."

**Revive**  
Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat asked Arab leaders to revive a Joint Arab League Defence Council and boycott anyone helping Soviet Jews reach Israel.

He told the Arab summit in Baghdad the United States was providing "flagrant support and scandalous connivance" in Israel's settlement of Jews in occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He was apparently referring to the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights, captured from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war, and Israel's self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon.

"I call on the Joint Defence Council to meet immediately, within one month, to confront these challenges and threats and to protect Arab national security," Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said.

A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation official said on Monday the PLO was determined to force a United Nations vote on a proposal to send UN observers to Israeli-occupied territories.

"We want to present to the Security Council a draft resolution calling for UN observers to be followed by UN troops," said Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the political department.

Asked if the threat of a US veto would deter them, Kaddoumi said: "No, we want to show the world that what the Americans really are."

The Jordanian monarch, whose country shares the longest front with Israel, also asked the richer participants for financial aid to buttress Jordan's flagging economy and help sustain the Palestinian intifadeh, or uprising in the Israeli occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He said he was puzzled how Arabs "celebrate day and night the intifadeh and not make available sufficient funds for it to continue..."

"Israel is plotting to change Jordan from a stronghold into a crack in the Arab front," he said. "We need your support now, not tomorrow, not in the future."

The king said Jordan needed support for its armed forces to enable them to defend the Arab frontline against Israel.

"We have reached a point where we cannot cooconic shouldering this responsibility without your support."

In an impassioned speech, King Hussein said the Baghdad conference, attended by representatives of 19 of the Arab League's 21 members, was the most critical and important Arab summit to date.

"Our enemies do not differentiate between those with empty



Sheikh Khalifa of Qatar attends the opening session of the Arab summit. (Reuters wirephoto)



Sheikh Zayed (right) discusses with his Foreign Minister Rashid Abdullahi Al Nuaimi during the opening ceremony of the Arab summit. (Reuters wirephoto)



King Fahd of Saudi Arabia (right) discusses with his Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal during the opening session of the Arab summit. (Reuters wirephoto)

coffers and huge debts on the one hand, and those with enormous surpluses on the other. We are all sitting on a powder keg which will spare nobody if it is set off," he declared.

"We are confronting all the dangers of Jewish immigration to the Arab occupied territories, the malicious and unwarranted campaign which is currently being waged against Iraq and the sinister designs being hatched against Jordan, all as episodes of one series," he said.

King Hussein reiterated his country's solidarity with Iraq in its war of words with Western nations critical of Baghdad's attempts to develop sophisticated military industries.

He aired fears about the emigration of Jewish Jews to Israel, saying it was a plot to undermine his country.

"In whose place will those immigrants settle? And where will the Palestinian people be pushed?" he asked.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak warned that the Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and settling them in the occupied Arab territories would adversely affect the future of peace and the security and stability of the countries of the region.

Mubarak said he sensed an understanding by Soviet and US Presidents George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev and other European leaders to the Arab stance toward the Jewish immigration.

He predicted that the coming months would witness calculated

measures to limit the negative impact of this immigration and to halt the damage it causes to the national Arab security.

He emphasised that the Arabs would reject usurping of lands by Israel and stressed that the Palestinian people have given the evidence throughout history that they are able to confront the challenge with a strong determination.

He also said that the peace the Arabs are calling for is a peace that is based on justice and right and rejects the status quo.

**Threats**  
Speaking about the threats against Iraq, President Mubarak stressed that all Arab countries have voiced support to Iraq in face of these threats.

He also pledged his country's support to Jordan in face of threats, made by irresponsible elements which he did not identify, and said any threat against the entity of Jordan or its safety and stability would be firmly dealt with.

As for his initiative which calls for making the Middle East an area free of weapons of mass destruction, Mubarak said if this proposal is implemented it would guarantee the Arab existence in the present and future.

**Delayed**  
The summit was delayed for several hours today while Libyan leader Col. Muammar Khaddafi made a last-minute effort to persuade Assad to attend and display a united Arab front against the West.

uled to open in Baghdad's Ornate Conference Centre at 10.30 am (0730 GMT).

**Violation**  
Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali said the vicious Western campaign against Iraq is a result of the state of disarray in the Arab world.

Ben Ali described the resettlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories as "a flagrant violation of the principle of the Geneva accord."

He added that Israel's refusal to recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people as well as rejecting any dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation proves that Israel still insists on mounting tensions in the region.

The Tunisian president stressed that this "complicated" situation does not help in resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with the international "legitimacy" but rather will destabilise the region.

He noted that Israel still insists on pursuing the policy of expansion and rejecting all peace initiatives, noting that the "whole world knows that Israel is the party that rejects international legitimacy."

**The Amir**  
His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed, today called on the Amir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Al Khalifa at his residence.

Sheikh Jaber later in the evening called on Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak at his staying.

## Pakistan

(Continued from Page 1)

and provincial authorities to "examine all the options under the constitution and the law to restore normalcy in Sindh," the presidential spokesman said.

Benazir arrived in Karachi this evening on an unscheduled trip and met provincial authorities, government sources said.

"I think Benazir could be in really serious danger over Sindh," political commentator Mushahid Hussain said. "It is only the army that can maintain law and order."

"It is a civil war," a native Sindh called Gulab told reporters in Hyderabad. A Mohajir, Mohammad Ali, described the clashes as "a war of survival."

Gum battles between Sindhis and Mohajirs, Muslim immigrants from India, are common but most of the people killed on Sunday died in clashes between security forces and rioters.

Dozens of bodies were brought into hospitals during the night after being dragged off streets turned red by the blood of the dead and wounded, volunteer Abdul Karim said at the city's Bhitai hospital.

Police blame the current violence on a militant faction of the Mohajir Qaumi Movement.


Critics say the violence has escalated beyond the local government's control.

Opposition politicians in parliament have repeatedly called for the dismissal of the provincial government and declaration of a state of emergency, a move that government has resisted.

A prominent literary figure and a senior official of the Pakistan Information Department, Munir Ahmed Sheikh, died in Karachi today following heart stroke.

The 58-year old official who was director-general of Reference and Research Wing of the federal Information Ministry in Karachi had gone to Karachi for angiography.

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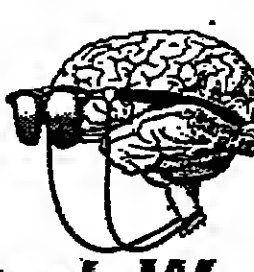


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## PEOPLE AND PLACES

**ELIZABETH, New Jersey:** A street that runs beside Mickey Spillane's old elementary school now bears the author's name.

One of Spillane's grade school teachers showed up for the dedication ceremony attended by the writer Thursday, along with dozens of young students from the Theodore Roosevelt elementary and middle schools.

"At least it's paved," the 72-year-old Spillane said of Mickey Spillane way, which runs by the schools. "If it wasn't paved, I wouldn't go."

Spillane, who has written more than 40 detective novels featuring the hard-boiled private detective Mike Hammer, said he attended grades three through six at Roosevelt elementary.

The writer's family moved to Elizabeth in 1918, when he was a month old. He lived here until his senior year of high school, he said.

Spillane has been living in Marcell's Inlet, South Carolina, where he is finishing a novel and rebuilding his home. The novel was lost and the house destroyed last fall in hurricane Hugo. (AP)

**NEW YORK:** A key figure in \$150 million real estate scam whose victims included Eddie Murphy and actress Kirstie Alley has been sentenced to 16 to 48 years in prison.

Louis Rosen of University Heights, Ohio, was sentenced Wednesday on 37 counts, including grand larceny and securities fraud. Prosecutors said he was the comptroller in deals set up by tax-shelter hustler John Peter Galmieri, prosecutors said.

District attorney Robert Morgenthau said Rosen made about \$1 million from a variety of schemes, including one involving the sale of limited partnerships in hotels and store space in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Murphy, Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Boomer Esiason, and ally, of the television series Cheers, were among 1,300 people drawn into the Atlantic City scheme in 1985, Morgenthau said.

Gerald McElwey, a spokesman for the district attorney, said Esiason lost \$79,800, Alley lost \$93,500 and Murphy lost \$240,375.

Rosen, 64, is free on bond pending appeal.

Galmieri, from San Diego, earlier pleaded guilty and is serving a sentence of seven to 21 years in prison, along with a 27-year sentence from another case. (AP)

**HEMINGFORD GREY, England:** Children's author Lucy Boston has died at the age of 97 at her home, a 12th century manor that was the setting and inspiration for her books, her son said Sunday.

Mrs. Boston, whose best-known work was *The Children of Green Knowe*, suffered a stroke 12 weeks ago and died Friday evening, said her son Peter Boston, illustrator of most of her books.

Many of her 18 books were translated into Japanese, Swedish, German and Afrikaans, and *"The Children of Green Knowe"* was adapted into a series for British Broadcasting Corp. television in 1984.

Mrs. Boston wrote a series of green Knowe books as well as *The Castle of Yew*, *The Sea Egg*, *Nothing Said*, *The Guardians of The House*, and *The Fossil Snake*. In 1960 she was awarded the Carnegie Medal for children's books.

Mrs. Boston bought the manor, one of the oldest inhabited houses in England, in a semi-derelict condition in 1938 and restored it.

**HARMONY, California:** The price of harmony is \$1.8 million. Not domestic harmony, mind you. Village Harmony or rather, the village of Harmony.

Population 18 the last time anybody counted, located on the central California coast 180 miles northwest of Los Angeles. Movie stars need not apply to buy this town. Not the kind that are looking for Gitz and glamour anyway. What this town needs is someone interested in keeping the rustic, slow pace of the place and making sure the resident artists are happy.

The community supports about a dozen shops with works by local weavers, potters and glass blowers, and a homemade pasta at the old Harmony pasta factory and saloon. (AP)

**THE GREAT AMERICAN pyramid, temple for tourists, coming to Tennessee**

MEMPHIS, Tennessee, May 28, (AP): The steel skeleton of the great American pyramid is taking shape on the banks of the Mississippi river in this southern US state.

In one respect, the construction of this multimillion-dollar monolith harkens back to the namesake of this Tennessee city — the other Memphis was the ancient capital of Egypt.

But this will be a temple for tourists, not a shrine to the Pharaohs. The 32-story stainless steel structure will combine attractions keyed to the modern and ancient versions of Mem-



Thousands of World War Two veterans attend a commemorative service at Dunkirk May 27. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Veterans commemorate

## Miracle of Dunkirk

**DUNKIRK, France, May 28, (AP):** Thousands of veterans of the Dunkirk evacuation assembled on a beachfront yesterday to honour comrades killed 50 years ago in one of World War II's most crucial operations.

The veterans, most of them British and many supporting themselves with canes or umbrellas, watched as a royal navy helicopter dropped a wreath of poppies amidst a circle of dozens of the "Little Ships" which helped rescue trapped Allied troops in 1940. They also prayed and sang hymns.

"God Save The Queen" was sung as the former soldiers deployed in ranks under their regimental standards. At least 15,000 people, including relatives and onlookers, were present.

The veterans marched or rode to the beach from a ceremony in the city centre, rebuilt after almost total destruction in the German bombardment that chased the Allied soldiers to the sea.

"Some of us have been here before," Lord Donald Kaberry, president of the Dunkirk Veterans Association, told the assembled throng, which included French, Belgian, Dutch and Australian veterans, as well as the Britons.

"We were here 50 years ago, when we crossed the beaches and went back to the United Kingdom to regroup, fight again and win," said Kaberry, 82. He was an acting major in the British expeditionary force when he was evacuated with 338,000 other Allied troops in what became known as "the miracle of Dunkirk."

Some 6,000 British veterans and their relatives visited this port city in far northern France for weekend celebrations commemorating operation Dynamo, when a ragtag fleet of 800 naval vessels, barges, fishing boats and pleasure craft rallied to

Winstoo Churchill's call to save the Allied armies from the encircling Wehrmacht.

Seventy-three of the so-called Little Ships, many involved in the operation, braved choppy Channel waters on Thursday in a crossing from Dover to Dunkirk to join the commemorations. Some sprang leaks, but most were able to muster in a circle offshore yesterday.

Ceremonies included speeches by British Transport Secretary Cecil Parkinson and French officials, but the stars of the show were the old soldiers themselves, who eagerly swapped war stories ranging from the indisputably accurate to the real whopper.

"We came back to rejoice and to thank everyone who made our crossing so good and so safe," said Maj. Gen. V.H.J. Carpenter, British chairman of the Dunkirk Veterans Association. "Our thanks know no bounds."

Many of the veterans returned with their wives to point out landmarks and dance the night away to the sounds of Glenn Miller and other big band era giants.

Others, their lives altered by time, brought younger family members.

"I've lost my wife but I've brought along my daughter and my two grandchildren," said Charles Franklin, 71, of Truro, England, hugging his young grandson. "It's important for this young chap to see this."

The commemoration was clearly a thanksgiving rather than a celebration. Nobody forgot that the evacuation, which included 120,000 French and Belgian troops, followed a bitter Allied defeat by the lightning-like strike of Hitler's Panzer divisions through Holland, Belgium and France.

## Aussies 2 badly hurt in train game

**MELBOURNE, Australia, May 28, (AP):** Two men were seriously injured when struck by a train's undercarriage as they tried to lie between the tracks and let the rail cars pass over them, police said.

Police acting superintendent Alan Maclean said yesterday there were indications that the stunt had been tried before successfully, but this particular train's undercarriage was lower than others that used the line.

The driver saw the victims and braked but could not stop in time.

## Boston blaze kills 6 Careless smoking caused fire

**BOSTON, May 28, (AP):** A fire possibly started by a cigarette killed all five members of a young family and a visitor at their home yesterday in the deadliest blaze in Boston in 18 years, officials said.

Firefighters arrived on the scene about three minutes after the fire was reported to the wooden duplex, but flames spread too fast for the occupants to be saved, said fire commissioner Leo Stapleton.

"These were old wooden buildings, about 100 years old, so the fire spread very quickly," he said. "It raced up the stairs into the bedrooms."

Stapleton said he suspected a cigarette left in an overstuffed chair might have sparked the blaze.

"We know one of the male occupants had been smoking earlier in the evening," Stapleton said.

The fire leaped to an adjoining building and crossed an alley to a third building, but no other injuries were reported, Stapleton said.

It was the worst blaze in the city since 1972, when nine firefighters died battling a fire at the Hotel Vendome, Stapleton said.

Basic construction costs will be financed by local governments and recovered through lease payments from the developers.

Attractions in and around the pyramid and at a companion tourist park will cost the developers about \$80 million, according to the latest estimates from Shlenker's staff.

## Mounties net tonnes of hashish

## Possibly biggest seizure in North America

**RAGGED HARBOUR, Canada, May 28, (AP):** Mounties netted tonnes of hashish in a sparsely populated bay yesterday in what may be the biggest hashish seizure ever made in North America, officials said.

A suspicious fisherman's tipoff about unusual behaviour led Royal Canadian Mounted Police to Ragged Harbour, along Nova Scotia's south shore.

The smugglers, apparently spooked at being seen, escaped but left the hurriedly-wrapped bales of hashish in nearby woods and underwater in a large inflatable pontoon raft

they apparently tried to hide by scuttling. Two smaller outboard-powered inflatables boats were also scuttled.

The Mounties had not yet weighed the haul late yesterday but one estimated it weighed 15 to 20 tonnes and another estimated it at 20 to 30 tonnes.

If it is 30 tonnes, it would be worth \$300 million to \$500 million Canadian dollars (\$169 million to \$211 million US) and would be the biggest such haul in North American history, said staff Sgt Jim Carter of the Mounties office in Liverpool.

Police believe the hashish was unloaded from a mother ship offshore.

Sgt Don Rowai of the Yarmouth drug section said Canadian Air Forces planes searched for the ship until dark but did not find it.

The smugglers apparently were bringing the drugs to the beach in the pontoon raft, then intended to reload it into the smaller inflatables for transport across a small cove to a semi-trailer, which the Mounties found empty and without its tractor.

They were caught in the middle of just starting to unload, Carter said.

## Ancient beasts' remains found

**SUVA, Fiji, May 28, (AP):** A group of scuba divers is said to have discovered what could be the remains of four prehistoric creatures in a remote underwater cave off a resort island in the north of Fiji.

Professional diver Kevin Deacon said last night that the find was made last week by members of the Douglas family, who operate the Matagi Island Resort, about 300 kms (135 miles) northeast of the capital, Suva.

Deacon, who has taken pictures of the remains and is overseeing an initial survey of the coral cave, said the animals seem to have been reptiles.

"We have found (the remains of) what appears to be two adults, one adolescent and a juvenile," he said in a telephone interview from Matagi. "They bear no resemblance to any marine creature I know."

He said the adult skulls were about one metre (yard). They looked to be land animals or some amphibious species, he said.

The cave, now part of a reef about 50 metres (yards) underwater, may once have been above sea level.

Douglas said that one of the discoverers, Nigel Douglas, was showing a videotape of the remains to scientists in the United States.



## Smooth progress

THE US space agency reported unusually smooth progress on Sunday and predicted good weather for space shuttle Columbia's blastoff to release a powerful observatory that will examine the life cycles of stars and galaxies.

"We're tracking no problems, and we're a couple of hours ahead on some systems," said countdown director Mike Lennbach of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. "It's not normal, but it's the way we like it."

The shuttle's seven astronauts arrived on Sunday from their training base in Houston to get ready for Wednesday's scheduled 12:38 am EDT (04:38 GMT) liftoff. The takeoff for the ten-day mission was delayed for two weeks because of an air-conditioning problem.

Stationed in the shuttle's payload bay is the \$148-million Astro observatory, four telescopes capable of detecting light the human eye cannot see.

Above, mission commander Vance Brand kisses wife Beverly while payed specialist Samuel Durrance hugs wife Rebecca (Reuters wirephoto)

## Cruise ship grounded at Delaware Bay

## Refloating efforts put off

**FORTESCUE, New Jersey May 28, (UPI):** The coast guard decided today to wait until high tide to try to refloat a cruise ship stuck on the sandy bottom of Delaware Bay, giving 1,360 passengers and crew an unexpected extension on a trip from the Bahamas.

A coast guard ship was stationed near the M.V. Regency Star to route traffic away from the disabled craft and monitor for any leaks or damage, officials said.

Coast guard officials said there had been no reports the vessel had been taking on water since it

was grounded early yesterday, or that the 642-foot (196-m) vessel was polluting the water.

No injuries were reported among the ship's 1,360 passengers and crew.

But petty officer Darayl Tompkins said officials had called off an attempt to free the craft at high tide around midnight yesterday, opting instead to attempt the procedure around high tide this afternoon.

"They didn't want to do anything in the dark," Tompkins said.

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## Attack on Contras cannot be proved

MANAGUA, May 28, (UPI): An investigative commission led by UN and Organisation of American States observers found no evidence of an alleged Sandinista attack on a group of demobilised Contras, a source close to the investigation said yesterday.

"It seems the commanders of the (Contras) who were negotiating disarmament and demobilisation with the government were fed false information," said the source, who asked not to be identified.

On Friday, Contra leader Oscar Sosa, known as Commander Ruben, broke off renewed demobilisation talks with the government of President Violeta Chamorro. He accused the army of attacking a group of demobilised Contras in the town of Waslala, 160 miles (260 km) north of Managua, killing 17 Contras.

Chamorro responded by ordering an investigation of the incident by an international commission composed of United Nations observers for Central America, representatives of the OAS, the Nicaraguan government, the Army, Contras and envoys from Roman Catholic Cardinal Miguel Obando Y Bravo.

"No incident occurred in the area," said Santiago Murray of the OAS, concluding the investigation. "We have not found proof of the existence of any of the deaths alleged by the Contras," he said.

During Saturday's investigation, the government scaled off with heavily armed police the hotel where the rebels were staying during the talks, preventing the Contra leaders from leaving the grounds of the Managua Hotel.

Late Saturday night, upon completion of the investigation into the alleged Waslala incident, the police barrier was removed.

Sosa said Contras were still unwilling to talk and that the disarmament and demobilisation would remain suspended.

"The talks are suspended, as well as the disarmament and demobilisation. We are returning to El Almendro," he said.

El Almendro is a security zone 148 miles (240 km) southwest of Managua.

Col. Manuel Maldonado, a member of the UN commission overseeing the demobilisation of the Contras said, "the investigation is continuing."

However, another source from the investigative commission said, "there is nothing more to investigate. The Contras were deceived and should return to the negotiating table."

Political adviser to the Contras Aristides Sanchez said US Secretary of State James Baker spoke with Chamorro by phone Saturday to inquire about the Contras being held by police in their hotel.

Interior Minister Carlos Hurtado denied the Contras were sequestered or held captive.

"They were only detained for their own security," he said.

**Cuba:** A Soviet scholar said on Sunday he believed Moscow's aid to Cuba would gradually come to an end and that economic ties between the two countries would be put on a commercial basis.

The Soviet Union now spends an estimated \$4 billion a year to support the Cuban economy. The figure excludes arms aid, (Reuters)

**Guatemala:** The mediator in talks starting in Madrid today between Guatemalan guerrillas and political leaders said he was optimistic on progress towards ending a civil war which has killed more than 100,000 people in almost 30 years.

"We are taking some important steps on the road to a solution," the archbishop of Guatemala, Rodolfo Quezada, told reporters on arrival in the Spanish capital. (Reuters)

**Dominican Republic:** Dominican Liberation Party presidential candidate Juan Bosch said Sunday he deplores the absence of former US President Jimmy Carter in the recount of May 16 election tally sheets.

The Central Electoral Council on Monday begins a review of the tally sheets prepared at each polling station.

## Premier Mulroney at impasse on Quebec crisis

OTTAWA, May 28, (Reuters): Prime Minister Brian Mulroney failed to move the deadline for a referendum on Quebec's status as a province after a marathon meeting yesterday to solve Canada's constitutional crisis.

In one of the darkest hours for the century-old Canadian confederation, Mulroney has held individual meetings with the 10 provincial premiers this weekend to break an impasse over how to amend the constitution before the June 23 deadline for passing the Meech Lake accord.

Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Manitoba are refusing to pass the accord, which would bring French-speaking Quebec into the 1982 constitution.

The agreement guarantees Quebec the right to protest its status as "a distinct society." The province has said it would consider secession if the deal were not ratified.

"Obviously we have serious problems, we have some different perceptions of things," Mulroney told reporters yesterday after the four-hour meeting with Newfoundland Premier Clyde Wells.

Wells, whose province rescinded approval of the constitutional accord, said he was glad his positions were now being listened to. But, without giving details, he said major differences remain.

"I have to be honest enough to say the differences

are substantial and serious, and resolution will not be easy," Wells said.

Earlier yesterday, Mulroney met with New Brunswick Premier Frank McKenna for more than two hours, and emerged much more optimistic.

"I know these are difficult times, but I come away from this meeting with some encouragement for what we might be able to do together," Mulroney told reporters.

Mulroney has summoned the provincial premiers separately to his mansion on the Ottawa river to try to find a basis of agreement before holding a meeting

with all the leaders.

The crisis has overshadowed upcoming talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev who visits Canada this week before his Washington summit with President George Bush.

The conservative prime minister is trying to salvage the deal he forged with the provinces in 1987, which is designed to make Quebec a willing partner in the constitution it refused to sign when it was brought back from Britain in 1982.

Quebec backs the Meech Lake accord — named for the Quebec site where it was signed — because it will give it powers to protect its French heritage.



Mulroney



Gaviria wins

A child holds up an electoral poster for Colombian Liberal Party presidential candidate Cesar Gaviria, who won the election. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Racial attacks upset Swedes

### Vow to counterattack

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, May 28, (AP): A challenge to Sweden's liberal immigration policies was stepped up this weekend in a spate of bombings and arson attacks on refugee housing.

Five refugee centres were attacked in less than one week. Yesterday, Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson vowed to go on a counterattack against the "criminal, cowardly scum" perpetrating the assault.

Eleven people were taken to hospital after a smoke grenade was thrown into a refugee home in Motala 150 miles (250 km) south of Stockholm early Saturday.

Hours later in Laholm further south, 15 barracks under preparation for refugees were burnt down to the ground.

On Sunday, assailants splashed gasoline on refugee barracks outside Vasteras, 60 miles (100 km) west of Stockholm, but the gas failed to ignite.

Anti-immigration slogans were smeared in several of the incidents, including "Keep Sweden Swedish," the watchword of the small right wing extremist group BSS.

No arrests have been made. Immigration authorities set up night watches at centres around the country where they said 30,000 people are waiting for replies to asylum applications.

The violence started earlier this month, coinciding with a rash of anti-Semitic actions in Europe beginning with desecration of Jewish graveyards in France.

But anti-immigrant sentiment has been gathering steam for several months, as a flood of refugee applicants has filled Swedish facilities to overflowing. "I do not think this is organised, or reflects public opinion," said Motala police chief Ake Axelsson. "One attack has inspired another," he said in a telephone interview.

The attacks have upset Swedes, who are still unaccustomed to political violence or open expressions of racism.

"The fires are the plain language of hate," said the Vestmanlands Lant Tidning, a liberal regional daily. "The anonymous anti-immigration feeling and its tail of violence is threatening fundamental values of our civilisation."

## Blast rips post office

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain, May 28, (AP): A bomb believed planted by Basque separatists exploded in a post office in this northern city early today causing slight damage but no injuries, a police spokesman said.

The explosion occurred at 1.15 am (2315 GMT), about 10 minutes after an anonymous caller to the local travellers aid bureau announced the bomb was set to go off, said the spokesman, who was not identified in keeping

with custom. No group immediately claimed responsibility, but the spokesman said police believed the blast was the work of the Basque separatist organisation ETA.

Police bomb squad officers searched the vicinity for other bombs but found none, he said.

ETA seeks independence from Spain for the three-province northern Basque region.

## Colombians elect Gaviria

### 'No concessions to narco-terrorism'

BOGOTA, May 28, (Agencies): President-elect Cesar Gaviria pledged he would make no concessions in the government's war against the powerful cocaine cartels, but directed a message at the United States saying that the craving for the drug must be overcome.

The 43-year-old economist and Liberal Party candidate who swept to a convincing victory in Sunday's election, said failure to curb drug use could dampen Colombians' will to battle the cocaine czars.

Gaviria, who won 47 per cent of the vote in an election held under threats of bombing by the violent Medellin cartel, supports the current

government policy of extraditing drug-trafficking suspects wanted in the United States. Washington views the extradition policy as critical to its anti-drug effort.

The policy, a central part of Colombia's anti-drug campaign, has had its price.

Sunday's vote culminated a bloody campaign that saw three presidential candidates assassinated, acts blamed on the Medellin cartel of cocaine traffickers.

With at least 85 per cent of the vote counted, Gaviria had 2.4 million votes, or 47 per cent, according to official figures. He was followed by three-time presidential election loser Alvaro Gomez of the National Salvation Movement with 1.2 million, or 24 per cent.

Two other candidates, former M-19 guerrilla leader Antonio Navarro and Social Conservative Rodrigo Lloreda, fighting for third place. Navarro had 12.7 per cent or 674,829 votes, while Lloreda had 636,709, or 12 per cent.

Gaviria is scheduled to begin a four-year term Aug 7, replacing Liberal Party President Virgilio Barco, who is constitutionally barred from seeking a second successive term.

### Killings

Officials reported 10 policemen and two other people were killed in a guerrilla dynamite attack on two vehicles carrying ballots in a rural area of the state of Huila near the town of Baraya, 125 miles (200 km) southwest of Bogota.

Also, eight officers and two other people were wounded in another guerrilla attack near Vegachica in the same area, local officials said.

In a victory speech at a downtown Bogota hotel shortly after Gomez conceded, Gaviria said there would be "no concessions to narco-terrorism."

But Gaviria also warned that Colombia's stamina to continue their bloody and costly war could wane if cocaine-consuming nations fail to curb their appetite for the drug. The United States is by far the world's largest cocaine-consuming nation.

### Hardline

"I want to take this opportunity to address the international community and tell it that Colombia is paying a high cost with the lives of its best men, of its magistrates, of its judges," Gaviria said.

"We will crush the narco-terrorism but certainly narcotics trafficking is a multilateral problem and the industrialised countries are doing little to confront the consumption of the drug. If they do not do it, it will be more difficult each time for the Colombian people to understand that their sacrifice is not rewarded and could be in vain."

With Gaviria, voters chose the candidate who took the strongest stand against the cocaine cartels who have penetrated most Colombian institutions and emasculated its justice system. He put the cartels on notice that the vote was against them.

"All of those who have wanted to threaten our democracy, listen to us," Gaviria said, "the people have spoken today with courage and clarity."

Gaviria won promising a renovation of the nation's politics, government institutions and constitution to better confront the nation's problems. He also praised Colombians for turning out to vote.

"The most difficult and troubled political campaign of all (the nation's) history has come to an end. Never like today were its values at risk, its democracy, its freedom. Never in this time have the violent ones of all kinds tried to destabilise our institutions."

Official returns also showed overwhelming approval for the other ballot measure, a call for the National Assembly to reform the constitution.

The measure was winning with 89 per cent of the vote to 3.9 per cent against. The rest of the votes were apparently left blank.



Gaviria raises his arms in a sign of victory May 27 as his daughter Maria Pas hangs on to his arm. (Reuters wirephoto)

### Gaviria defeats rivals

## Pledge of toughness

BOGOTA, May 28, (Reuters): Cesar Gaviria, who yesterday won Colombia's presidential election, pledges an uncompromising stance against violence whether the perpetrators be drug barons, leftist guerrillas or rightwingers.

Confident and articulate, Gaviria, 43, belongs to the ruling Liberal Party. But he is seen as something of a change from the statesmen who have ruled Colombia for decades.

Gaviria, an economist who served as finance and later interior minister in President Virgilio Barco's government, won a sweeping victory over rivals who were seen as more conciliatory towards Colombia's drug barons.

He entered the presidential race after Luis Carlos Galan, original favourite for the Liberal Party's presidential nomination, was shot dead at a political rally in August last year by a gunman believed in the pay of drug traffickers.

Barco responded by launching Colombia's toughest crackdown on the powerful drug barons. The drug traffickers then declared war on the state, killing hundreds in a bloody campaign of bombings and assassinations.

Gaviria has pledged to use the armed forces, justice system, social policies and institutional reform against violence of all kinds, including drug barons.

"It is necessary to impose the command of our laws on drug terrorists, (rightwing) paramilitaries, assassins and common crim-

als," he recently said. His strategy would also be aimed at leftwing guerrillas.

Three presidential candidates have been shot dead in Colombia in nine months. Gaviria has received death threats, and his security measures include cutting public appearances to a minimum and not going anywhere without bodyguards.

On Monday, one of his close political allies, Senator Federico Estrada Velez, was assassinated in the city of Medellin, the base of the world's largest cocaine cartel.

Gaviria says there can be no concessions to terrorism, he will not negotiate with the drug barons and will accept their surrender only if the government sets the terms.

He says industrialised countries must take stronger action to cut drug consumption.

On the controversial issue of extraditing drug suspects to the United States to stand trial, Gaviria says extradition cannot be the government's only weapon against drug barons.

He said Colombia's justice system, which has proven incapable of effectively dealing with drug traffickers, must be reformed with secure prisons and protection of judges and magistrates, scores of whom have been murdered.

Gaviria, born in the city of Pereira, 160 km (100 miles) west of Bogota, presents himself as a man with a common touch.

## Explosions rock central Athens

ATHENS, May 28, (Reuters): Three bomb blasts rocked central Athens early today, slightly injuring a woman passerby and wrecking several cars, police said.

It was the third bomb attack in Athens in as many weeks. The time-bombs were placed under cars near the Hilton Hotel and exploded simultaneously early last night. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack.

The bombs destroyed three cars, damaged several others and blew out windows in nearby shops and apartment buildings.

## Greece ex-minister faces fraud trial

### Illegal sale of maize to EEC

ATHENS, May 28, (AP): Former Deputy Finance Minister Nikos Athanassopoulos went on trial today charged with allegedly covering up the illegal sale of maize to the European Economic Community in 1986.

Athanassopoulos, a member of former Premier Andreas Papandreu's Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasek) cabinet is accused of instigating fraud that harmed the interests of Greece and the EEC, and of complicity in the forgery of certificates of origin.

Athanassopoulos is the first socialist minister to stand trial since Papandreu's government lost last June's general election amid allegations of widespread involvement in financial and political scandals.

He faces possible prison sen-

tences of 10 years to life if convicted of ordering a coverup of the illegal sale of Yugoslav maize to the EEC described as Greek.

Athanassopoulos, 67, has denied that his actions were illegal saying the cover-up was the result of a decision taken with other cabinet members to protect the country's interests.

Twelve civil servants including the former chairman of the state-owned Itco Commodities Company Soulis Apostolopoulos, face similar charges in connection with the sale of 9,000 tonnes of Yugoslav maize in 1986.

The maize was documented as Greek to avoid trade levies imposed on non-EEC agricultural products and to draw subsidies, the list of charges said.

Last September, the European court fined Greece \$3.8 million for the scam.

## Collor uses own high-profile lifestyle to set examples for Brazilians

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, May 28, (AP): One recent Sunday morning, President Fernando Collor de Mello climbed into the co-pilot's seat of an F-5B fighter plane and zoomed off for an hour of aerial acrobatics with a Brazilian Air Force ace.

At one point, Collor pulled out a camera and snapped his own picture, in a scene worthy of the movie "Top Gun." The next day, the photo was on page 1 of newspapers across the country.

The stunt was typical of Collor, whose

vigorous, media-conscious style has charmed many Brazilians and irritated others since his December election.

Collor says he simply loves sports. "I've always had a passion for sports," he recently wrote in a signed article for Veja, Brazil's largest newsweekly magazine. "Today, I'm in a position where I have to set an example."

At 40, Collor is Brazil's youngest president and the first to be elected by popular ballot since 1960. He arrived like a

whirlwind in the placid inland capital of Brasilia, governed for the past 25 years by stern generals and gray bureaucrats.

On successive weekends, the country has watched its leader soar through the air in an ultralight craft and race along back roads on a black 1000cc Kawasaki Ninja motorcycle. He has zipped over waters on jet-ski and glided beneath them in a submarine. He has bicycled, kayaked, jogged, swum and practiced karate, soccer and volleyball.

US President George Bush, in a note to a former ambassador published in newspapers here, called the Brazilian leader "Indiana Collor," in a reference to the intrepid movie hero Indiana Jones.

When Collor recently announced plans to go skydiving, even his mother thought it was too much.

"Everyone, please, write me letters, ask him to stop," Mrs Leda Collor de Mello said in an interview on national government radio. "I'm as worried as you are."



INTERNATIONAL

# Militant Sikhs kill 16 in Punjab

CHANDIGARH, May 28, (UPI): Sikh extremists killed 16 people today, including 13 migrant road workers roused from their sleep and forced to chant separatist slogans before being gunned down, police said. The Press Trust of India news agency said.

The incidents came amid a new cycle of violence in northern Punjab state, where at least 32 people have been killed in the past three days in separatist attacks and clashes between extremists and security forces.

Authorities said the worst incident of the day occurred at 2 am near Zira village, about 125 miles (200 km) northwest of Chandigarh, when gunmen dressed as police officers and carrying AK-47 rifles routed the migrant workers, who were sleeping near the highway.

Police said the gunmen forced the workers, all Hindus from the state of Bihar in eastern India, to stand in two separate lines and chant "long live Khalistan," a reference to the independent state some Sikhs hope to create in Punjab.

The gunmen then opened fire on the two groups, killing 13 men, police said. The incident, in the Ferozpur district along the frontier with Pakistan, was witnessed by four other labourers who escaped, police said.

Authorities said two Sikh extremist groups, the Khalistan Liberation Force and the Khalistan Commando Force, jointly claimed responsibility for the killings.

Extremists also gunned down three other people in separate incidents around the state, the PTI news agency reported.

The news agency also quoted police as saying that a bomb exploded at a bus stand in Ludhiana, 70 miles (110 km) northwest of Chandigarh. No injuries were reported, the Press Trust said.

Government officials in Punjab claimed that today's killings were part of a Pakistani conspiracy to inflame tensions among India's religious groups and destabilise the border area between the two countries. They offered no evidence to support the claim.

## Lanka seeks Islamic help

COLOMBO, May 28, (Kuna): A resolution urging all Islamic and Arab nations to support the Sri Lankan government and people for taking the courageous decision to sever ties with Israel was adopted at the concluding sessions this weekend by the third international Islamic Seminar for South-East Asia held in Colombo.

The World Islamic Call Society, which organised the seminar, decided on back-up action to make the resolution a reality.

The secretary-general of the society, Doctor Mohamed Al Sharif said his organisation will urge all Muslim governments to increase financial aid and assistance to Sri Lanka.

Meanwhile, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Yasser Arafat has expressed his sincere appreciation of the bold attitude adopted by Sri Lanka in closing down the Israeli interests section.

# Brandt fears Indo-Pak war

'The threat is real,' says ex-German chancellor

NEW DELHI, May 28, (Reuters): Former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt, who has offered to help India and Pakistan settle their Kashmir dispute, said today he feared the two countries might go to war.

"The threat of war is real," Brandt said after delivering a lecture in New Delhi on the development of solar energy.

Brandt made his offer in Islamabad yesterday. A Muslim secessionist uprising in Indian-ruled Kashmir has severely strained relations between the two countries since mid-January.

Brandt declined immediate comment on a

London newspaper report that India and Pakistan were preparing nuclear weapons in case of war.

The Sunday Times reported that the US and Soviet governments feared a nuclear war between India and Pakistan over Kashmir after intelligence reports that the two countries were readying atomic arsenals.

Brandt told an Islamabad news conference before leaving for Delhi yesterday that he was reluctant to talk of formal mediation in the Kashmir dispute but offered his help as chairman of the Socialist International.

"I will listen to those responsible in Delhi as

I have listened to the leading political figures in this country. What may come out of it nobody knows," he said.

India has said it will not accept third-party mediation over its handling of the Kashmir uprising in which at least 550 people have died since January.

Brandt was followed into Islamabad by US Congressman Stephen Solarz, a New York Democrat, who is also trying to defuse the Kashmir row.

The Socialist International's council called at a meeting in Cairo last week for the two sides to pull their troops back to peacetime positions and open a dialogue.



**Nose job for jet**  
Workers try to free a Thai International Airways Airbus 300 from being ditched in mud at the Manila International Airport, May 28.  
The jet on a flight from Bangkok swerved off the runway after braking its nose gear upon landing. None of the 273 passengers and 13 crew was hurt and flight operations remained suspended. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Cory clears Ramos

MANILA, May 28, (UPI): President Corazon Aquino shrugged off a 'pure intrigue' today claims by mutineers that recent violent incidents were part of a US-backed plot to stage a coup attempt to be led by her defence secretary.

Aquino told a news conference she has 'full confidence' in Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos.

"Certainly his actions over the past four years, where he has very clearly defended and protected the constitution and our people, will give me no reason to doubt his motives," Aquino said.

News reports today said the clandestine Young Officers Union (YOU) had charged Ramos and US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney with plotting to stage a coup attempt.

"Well, I will dismiss that as pure intrigue," Aquino said.

Ramos, appearing at a senate committee meeting on defence matters, also said the reports were 'pure propaganda, completely unfounded' and 'designed to create instability among our people.'

The YOU joined the Dec 1-9 coup attempt in which 119 people were killed and more than 500 were wounded. The sixth uprising was crushed after US jets provided air cover to loyalist forces.

News reports quoting a YOU spokesman who used the assumed name of Capt Carlos Magalang said Ramos discussed the coup attempt against Aquino during his visit to Washington last year.

## Philippine Muslims

# Peace talks offer

MANILA, May 28, (Reuters): The Philippines told ambassadors from Islamic countries today it was ready for peace talks with Muslim separatist rebels.

"We're always open. No preconditions. But the initiative must come from them," presidential representative Jose de Jesus told reporters after meeting 13 Manila-based Islamic envoys ahead of a session next month in Cairo of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said he was confident the Cairo conference would reject the bid by the Moro National Liberation Front to become an IOC member.

The envoys expressed concern about delays in setting up an autonomous government for predominantly Muslim areas in the southern Philippines. The region voted on the autonomy issue last November, but only four out of 13 provinces voted in favour of limited self-rule.

Troops captured nine suspected communist rebel leaders in a raid in the southern Philippines, the military said today.

A military report said the nine, alleged members of the outlawed National Democratic Front's Mindanao commission, were arrested during a raid Saturday on a house in Davao city.

The reports said the plan was 'polished' in Manila during the visit by Cheney to Manila in February. Aquino refused to see Cheney during his visit, saying she did not like insinuations in news reports that US visitors had told her to 'put her house in order.'

US embassy spokesperson Victoria Middleton said she did not think the report was 'worth commenting on.'

Military officials meanwhile fielded a crack force of 3,000 constables in the capital to step up security measures following a rash of ambushes and grenade attacks in which at least 10 people were killed last week.

The incidents were either blamed on mutinous soldiers or communist guerrillas.

Constabulary spokesman Lt Col Cris Maralit said the constables will set up checkpoints, conduct round-the-clock patrols on foot and by car.

The military said today 48 officers and soldiers and 17 civilians have been killed in incidents in the capital over the past five months involving the communist New People's Army (NPA).

The 19,000-strong NPA has been battling the Manila government for 21 years.

# Kashmir struggle will go on: JKLF

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, May 28, (Reuters): The leader of Kashmir's main militant group vowed yesterday the fight against Indian rule would go on and said that changing governments would not calm unrest in the state.

"We will continue our war until Kashmir's freedom," Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chairman Amanullah Khan said in a speech in Rawalpindi, near Islamabad.

He said the appointment of a new governor in India's Jammu and Kashmir state last week replaced "one beast ... by another."

"That makes no difference for us. It will make no difference even if they bring (Mahatma) Gandhi and (Pandit) Jawaharlal) Nehru to Kashmir," he said, referring to India's revered independence leaders.

JKLF is spearheading a violent secessionist campaign by Muslims in Kashmir valley where at least 550 people have been killed in clashes between protesters and troops this year.

Former Indian intelligence chief Girish Saxena took over as governor on Saturday saying there would be no change in policy to combat the militants.

Saxena replaced Jagmohan, architect of the tough policy towards the uprising.

Hundreds of JKLF activists chanted "freedom, freedom" as Amanullah arrived at Islamabad airport from a support-seeking trip to the United States and Europe where India had sought his extradition.

Amanullah also denounced Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for a statement last week in which she rejected the JKLF's idea of an independent Kashmir, saying that Kashmiris wanted union with Pakistan.

"So far as we are concerned, whether Benazir Bhutto wants (it) or not ... whether (former Indian prime minister) Rajiv Gandhi wants (it) or not, Kashmir will be independent," he said.

"Plebiscite is no substitute for independence," Amanullah said.

He said Pakistan's founder Muhammad Ali Jinnah had said in 1947 before the Indian partition that the subcontinent's princely states would be free to accede to India or Pakistan or become independent.

"Benazir has insulted the Quaid-i-Azam (Jinnah)," he said.



**Children stopped**  
An armed Pakistani soldier stops a jeep carrying children from entering a curfew area of Karachi. (Reuters wirephoto)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Boat people problem:** The head of the UN agency in charge of refugees suggested on Monday that the answer to the boat people problem was for the West to pour aid into Vietnam.

Thorvald Stoltenberg, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said economic and social problems had prompted many Vietnamese to flee their homeland in an exodus he termed a humanitarian nightmare.

"It appears to me that the time has come for us to recognize that until these root causes are clearly addressed, the exodus is likely to continue in spite of UNHCR's best efforts," he told the agency's 43-nation committee, which includes major donors such as the United States, Japan and the EEC. (Reuters)

**International law meeting:** President Daniel Arap Moi reversed his attorney general's decision on Monday and said Kenya will host an international Bar Association conference in September.

"The meeting will go ahead as planned because it is important and will be held in Africa for the first time," state radio quoted Moi as telling IBA President Amos Wako.

Attorney-general Matthew Muli said last Thursday the meeting would not take place in Nairobi because of a rift among members of the law society of Kenya. (Reuters)

**Shift in priorities:** Britain is cutting back on its diplomatic representation in the Third World as a result of a shift in priorities towards Eastern Europe, a leading London paper said Monday.

The Independent newspaper said the UK Foreign Office is facing a financial and staffing crisis as a result of the growing need for its diplomats in Eastern Europe, following the recent political changes there.

The British government fears that without a swift response to developments in Europe, Britain will fail to exert influence or capitalise on opportunities, the paper noted.

But it predicted that there would be protests that by reducing its presence in Latin America and Africa, Britain will lose influence in other key regions. (Kuna)

**Last round of defence talks:** Greece and the United States on Monday opened their last round of talks that is expected to end in agreement for an eight-year defence pact.

The pact will permit the operation of US bases in the country.

Government spokesman Vyron Polydoros said: "The final round (of talks) began this morning and is expected to last until the end of the week."

Polydoros told journalists that the duration of the accord would be eight years instead of five, as the previous one which expired in December 1988. (AP)

**Job hunting:** The job hunting season for graduating Japanese students has already begun despite an agreement that major companies bar recruiting activities until Aug 20.

That date was set, as it is every year, by the Japan Federation of Employers' Association and Japanese universities.

According to this year's agreement, students can start visiting companies on Aug 20 and companies can start sending notices of employment on Oct 1. (Kuna)

**Lafontaine faces party revolt:** West German Social Democrat leader Oskar Lafontaine, still recovering from a knife attack last month, faces a party revolt for opposing Chancellor Helmut Kohl's plans for rapid German unity.

An increasing number of members looked set to desert Lafontaine after he said at the weekend the party should oppose the economic union treaty in the lower house of parliament.

Social Democrat leaders met in Bonn on Monday to discuss the crisis.

**Murray to get Jazzpar prize:** American tenor saxophonist David Murray will be awarded the second international Jazzpar prize, the awarding committee said on Monday.

"Murray will receive the prize which is given to an internationally known and fully active jazz artist who is especially deserving of further acclaim," said Arvid Meyer of the Danish Jazz Centre and chairman of the award committee. (AP)

# Gabon protesters take to streets

'Bongo must go, there is too much corruption'

PORT-GENTIL, Gabon, May 28, (Reuters): Hundreds of protesters, some armed with hunting rifles, marched through Gabon's rebellious oil capital yesterday accusing President Omar Bongo of murder and demanding his resignation.

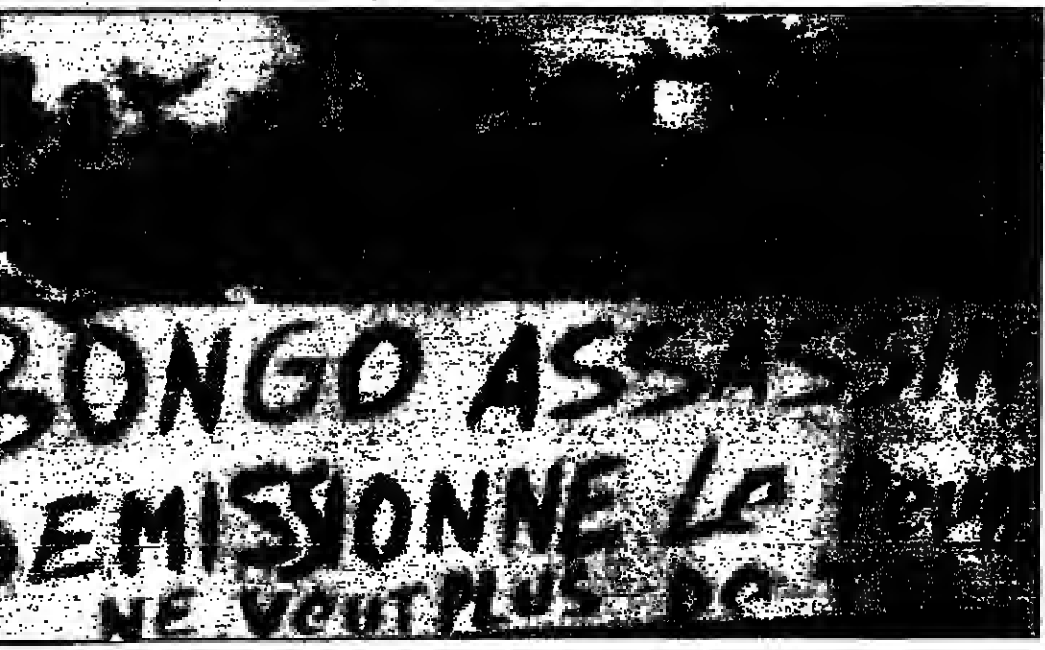
For the fifth consecutive day, residents gathered shortly before dusk in defiance of the government.

The worst outbreak of violence since the West African state won independence from France in 1960 was triggered by the suspicious death of a leading opposition politician.

Protests have been loudest in the oil-exporting centre of Port-Gentil, a city of 80,000 people 190 km (80 km) southwest of the capital, Libreville. "Bongo must go, there is too much corruption," an unemployed mechanic of 23 said as protesters filed past, holding placards saying "Bongo out" and "Bongo murderer."

Some wore coloured headbands in a sign of mourning for Joseph Rendjambé, secretary-general of the opposition Gabonese Progress Party (PGP), whose body was found in the Libreville hotel room last week.

"Bongo and his accomplices must pay," said a slogan painted



Women gather around a sign accusing Bongo of being a murderer and calling for his resignation. (Reuters wirephoto)

in red letters on the French consulate's wall.

PGP supporters say Bongo, 54, who has wielded absolute power for the past 22 years, is responsible for his death.

Oil companies, including France's Elf and the Anglo-

## Fiji

# Farmers warned against striking

SUVA, Fiji, May 28, (AP): Fiji's army commander issued a strong warning today that ethnic Indian sugar farmers should abandon any plans to disrupt the country's vital sugar-cane harvest next month.

Major-General Sitiveni Rabuka told troops at Suva's Queen Elizabeth barracks that he and several senior officers planned to draw up a plan for the post-coup interim government on actions the army could take, radio Fiji reported.

Last week, Rabuka said the military forces would be prepared to cut cane if the government ordered them to do so.

Rabuka led two 1987 racially inspired coups that ousted Fiji's Indian-dominated elected government. Rabuka, then an army colonel, claimed he was protecting the rights of indigenous Fijians.

The strike threat has arisen from farmer's anger over a recent government decision that the claim will cut their income.

Sugar is Fiji's top industry, capable earning more than \$150 million a year in exports.

# Rats and bugs keep Bangladesh hungry

DHAKA, May 28, (Reuters): Rats and bugs are keeping Bangladesh from being able to feed its people, agriculture experts say.

President Hossain Mohammad Ershad has said Bangladesh's annual foodgrains production will go up to 20 million tonnes by 1992, enough to feed the impoverished nation's entire population of 110 million and meet emergencies.

Bangladesh produced 18 million tonnes of grains in 1989 and hopes to raise its harvest to 19.5 million this year.

"But the irony is that the country suffers poor harvest foodgrains wastage of about 2.4 million tonnes every year," said Mohammad Hossain, director-general of the Bangladesh Agriculture Institute.

Mondol told an agriculture training session in Dhaka yesterday that the target would be met only if the huge wastage could be checked.

Experts say rats devour one million grains while insects destroy at least half a million tonnes more in the fields every year.

## NOTICE

The under-mentioned personnel have left Al Mulla Group's employment:

Sr. No.	Names	Nationality	Passport No.
1.	Bienvenido M. Duenas 111	Filipino	D 966477
2.	Intiaz Ahmed	Pakistani	B 770338
3.	Ravinder Singh Surjeet Singh	Indian	N 9744
4.	Mohd Ismail Ahmed Hashim	Sri Lankan	J 02142
5.	Carmel Abraham Immanuel	Indian	X 7952
6.	Jagannath Panchal	Indian	C 8192
7.	Victor Falconeria Sequeira	Indian	F 2686
8.	Anil Sunny Massey Budden	Pakistan	X 977
9.	Mohd Zahid Iqbal	Indian	A 589
10.	Liyakat Ali Abdul Rahman Khatib	Indian	X 06
11.	Pattiyage Premaratna Fernando	Sri Lanka	J 008
12.	Aruna Priyantha Dissanayake	Sri Lanka	0423572
13.	Mohd Omar Mohd Ghouse	Indian	E 653146
14.	Desai Sumer Ramchandra	Indian	302424
15.	Sami Ahmed Aliuddin Ahmed	Indian	3444
16.	Oswald Fernandes	Indian	2243
17.	Mohd Hasan Mohd Aly	Egyptian	3021
18.	Lakshbir Singh Gura Singh	Indian	S 702660
19.	Babu Vallatharayil Varghese	Indian	R 542678
20.	Velu Pillai Mohana Kumar	Indian	C 170494

They are hereby requested to call at our Personnel Department for cancellation/transfer of their residence permits. The Company will cancel their residence permits after 2 weeks from the date of this advertisement and will not be responsible for any legal aspects related to them.







# Gorbachev facing same problems that caused czars to fall

Slogans of the day are 'land to the peasants' and 'all power to the soviets'

MOSCOW, May 28, (AP): For some students of history, the sense of déjà vu is chilling: weakening central power faces nearly total discontent among ethnic groups, disgruntled workers, and mutually suspicious intellectuals arrayed in a myriad of political parties.

The slogans of the day are: "Land to the peasants" and "all power to the soviets."

A cumbersome and ideology-laden bureaucracy finds it easier to stick to its old ways than to reform.

With perhaps vital differences Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in 1990 faces many of the same bewildering problems that caused the Czarist empire to come crashing down around Nicholas II in spring 1917.

Now, however, the heir to Lenin's legacy is himself struggling with those difficulties as if they merely were frozen in time by decades of Soviet power.

The warning is sounded on the pages of the official press, over tea at the kitchen table, and in the Soviet Congress, where 84-year-old scholar Dmitri Likhachev warned

in March against subjecting the country to a nation-wide presidential election.

"I remember the revolution of February (1917) very well, and I know where emotions can lead," he told Parliament. "Understand our conditions. Direct election of the president will lead to civil war. A bloody civil war followed the Bolsheviks' seizure of power."

Writer Andranik Migranyan said in the weekly Literaturnaya Gazeta: "Really, you can come to despair from the thought that in this country, everything repeats itself."

But if the country can make the break to even a slightly less authoritarian system of government, "that already will be the light at the end of the tunnel," he said.

Gorbachev's most stubborn problems are ethnic disputes and economic dislocation, familiar problems for pre-revolutionary times.

The fringe areas of the Russian empire that escaped during the turmoil of the revolution only to be patiently gathered by Stalin again are asserting their independence. Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, the three Baltic republics that won a rare spell of freedom out of the ruins of the Russian

empire, are leading the way.

The economy is in disarray. Industrial production fell 1.2 per cent in the first three months of 1990. Strikes last summer by thousands of coal miners finally broke the long prohibition against job actions that was enforced by strict communist rule, and led to the legalisation of some strikes.

Regardless of legality, 130,000 people were on strike on any given day in the first quarter of the year. Store shelves are empty and people are angry.

Gorbachev has seemed powerless to halt the ethnic unrest. He bought time against last year's coal mine strike with broad promises of better living conditions that are nowhere near being fulfilled.

Strike committees still are active in many cities and in a recent meeting representatives of about 50 of them declared a lack of confidence in the government's ability to reform the economy. They stopped short of forming or endorsing a political party, but agreed on a confederation to keep the pressure on Moscow.

Just as the Bolsheviks agitated for the overthrow of the Czarist government and then Kerensky's provisional government,

dozens of new political parties now are pressing to push the communists out of power.

The Soviet leader's opponents hark back to 1917 to argue that 72 years of communist rule has brought the country little but ruin.

In 1917, "all power to the soviets" was the slogan under which Lenin's legions took power. In 1990, protesters march with the same banner, demanding that the Communist Party bureaucracy turn power over to an elected Parliament, or Soviet.

The goal of a new party must not be to work within the system but to break up the system," Nikolai Travkin, a former communist, told supporters of his drive to form an anti-communist party.

Repeating the sorry experience of the past, the new parties often cannot agree on their own programme much less a common front. Russian Social Democrats meeting in Moscow in early May spent much of their time debating whether local chapters would have to obey central authority.

Such disputes paralysed the Russian political system before the Bolshevik Revolution and gave Lenin's highly disciplined minority the opening it needed to seize power.

But there are important differences between 1917 and 1990.

Many historians argue that Czarist Russia, despite its archaic political system, could have been transformed peacefully if not for World War I.

The Russian economy was expanding rapidly, farm output was growing, and expenditures for education were increasing.

The war exposed fatal weaknesses in political and economic administration, which led not only to military losses but severe food shortages in the cities, they argue.

Gorbachev has resolutely avoided military conflicts. He has pulled Soviet soldiers out of Afghanistan, concluded arms control agreements with the West and started pulling soldiers out of Eastern Europe in order to spend more of the country's resources on the domestic economy.

In contrast to Nicholas II and Kerensky, Gorbachev is a consummate inside politician, master of the system in which he has worked for more than 30 years.

He has patiently isolated and eliminated his Communist Party foes and stands alone now atop both the government and party

apparatus.

Nevertheless, critics charge that he is dangerously late in making key reforms, and that he does not fully understand the country he governs.

Vyacheslav Shostakovsky, rector of Moscow's Higher Party School and a leading party reformer, said Gorbachev is isolated by the party's inability to give him a real understanding of what people are feeling.

"His rare trips don't give him the emotional colouring," Shostakovsky said in an interview. "That's why he was shocked by the May 1 events" when tens of thousands of protesters marched past him in a May Day parade.

If Gorbachev had understood the mood of the people, he would have been able to anticipate the angry reaction, Shostakovsky said.

In February, less than two months after rejecting the idea, he led the party into accepting a multi-party system. At the same time the party adopted the principle of private property, and a new law going into effect on July 1 will allow Soviet entrepreneurs to hire labour.

## General blames Nicu for killings

SIBIU, Romania, May 28, (Reuters): A Romanian general blamed the son of executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu today for 89 killings in the central city of Sibiu during last December's revolution.

"He told me we are in a state of war, not in a state of alarm. Let's finish it off," General Aurel Dragomir told a military tribunal trying Ceausescu's son Nicu on a charge of genocide.

"What did you understand by that?" presiding judge Major Doru Ursu asked Dragomir.

"He meant the use of force," said the general, who was Army commander in Sibiu where Nicu was head of the local Communist Party.

Nicu, 38, denied on the first day of his trial on Saturday that he had ordered troops to open fire without warning on unarmed demonstrators during last December's bloody uprising.

He faces life imprisonment if convicted.

He told the five-man military tribunal the order was issued in the belief Romania was under foreign attack and that he never intended arms to be used against civilians.

Demonstrators remained split yesterday on whether to end their 36-day occupation of Bucharest's main square because the government has rejected their key demand to ban former high-ranking communists from holding public office.

A heavy rain drenched University Square and its tent camp late yesterday, a loudspeaker continued to blare anti-communist slogans and urge passers-by not to support President-elect Ion Iliescu, a former Communist Party politburo member.

Romanian officials expressed hope yesterday that the Romanian-Soviet border would be opened permanently this summer after 50 years, linking a region that was once united.

But a temporary opening of the border scheduled for yesterday was postponed until June 24, disappointing dozens of Romanians who had come to border crossings in hopes of seeing friends and relatives from the Soviet Union.

Soviet sources at the border, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the border opening was rejected by the Supreme Soviet.

## Sofia plans to increase poll security

SOFIA, Bulgaria, May 28, (AP): The government said Sunday it will increase police security to prevent further violence before Bulgaria's first multi-party elections on June 10.

The Interior Ministry announced the increased police deployment yesterday after the ruling party newspaper, Duma, reported several attacks and threats against candidates running in the elections.

The newspaper of the Bulgarian Socialist Party — the former Communist Party — said in a rare report on actions by its own party members that socialist supporters nearly clashed with opposition demonstrators in a village on Saturday.

The newspaper also said a local Socialist Party leader has complained of threats by opposition supporters.



A dead body lies on the ground behind a bullet-riddled British registered car in the southern Dutch town of Roermond late May 27. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Aussies murdered

Victims of mistaken identity

AMSTERDAM, May 28, (Reuters): Two young Australian tourists gunned down in the Netherlands last night seem to have been mistaken for off-duty British soldiers because they were in a British-registered car, Dutch police said today.

The two unnamed men, aged 25 to 30 and identified by the Australian embassy in the Hague as lawyers, died instantly when masked men shot them down in the southern town of Roermond, popular with British troops based nearby in West Germany.

Two women companions escaped unhurt. Resembling off-duty soldiers because of looks, age and dress, their British-registered rental car apparently made the two men unwitting terrorist targets.

The British abandoned military number plates after a series of attacks on servicemen in continental Europe in recent years by the Irish Republican Army (IRA), which seeks to end British rule in northern Ireland.

These included a murder in Roermond itself two years ago, attributed by police to the IRA.

"There's a 99 per cent chance that a car with British licence plates in Roermond belongs to the military," police spokesman Harry Claibbers said.

"If the IRA assumed all British cars here belong to soldiers then they have made a disastrous mistake," he added.

Police said two female companions, wife and girlfriend respectively of the victims, escaped unhurt in the attack.

"It appears they had just come over from England that day and weren't quite sure where they were heading that night. They had not booked any accommodation here," the police spokesman said.

A spokesman for the Australian embassy in the Hague said the two victims were lawyers but declined to name them.

The embassy said the two couples, based in London, apparently had taken the opportunity of today's public holiday in Britain to take a long weekend on the continent.

The two victims and one of the women were from Sydney while the second woman, wife of one of the victims, originated from Brisbane, he said.

## Bonn rejects Soviet ideas

Nato membership

STRAUSBERG, East Germany, May 28, (Reuters): West Germany today rejected a Soviet proposal that a united Germany could be a political Nato member outside the military command, but said the idea showed Moscow was moving in the right direction.

"I do not see this as the solution we are seeking on this matter," said West German Defence Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg after the first visit to East Germany's Disarmament and Defence Ministry by a Bonn minister.

"It is remarkable that the Soviet president is now beginning to concern himself in public with the prerequisites for (German) Nato membership," he told a news conference.

Last Friday, President Mikhail Gorbachev raised the pos-

## Spying Worst case of treason

KARLSRUHE, West Germany, May 28, (UPI): West Germany's federal prosecutor said today that the worst case of high treason his office ever dealt with was committed by retired US sergeant Clyde Lee Conrad who is on trial for alleged espionage.

The prosecutor, Kurt Rebmann said military experts believed that if Conrad's alleged spying activities had not been uncovered, West Germany may have faced the choice of either using strategic nuclear weapons or having to give up the defence of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Conrad was arrested in West Germany, August 1988 and formally indicted one year later, for allegedly selling top secret nuclear and other military plans to the then communist Hungarian and Czechoslovakian governments between 1975 and 1986.

## Terrorist bomb caused Italian jet crash

ROME, May 28, (Reuters): New evidence about the crash of an Italian airliner 10 years ago has changed the minds of two investigators who say a terrorist bomb, not a missile, brought down the plane, judicial sources said today.

Investigators had suggested in March that a jet, probably Libyan, shot down the Itavia DC-9 airliner near Sicily in 1980, killing all 81 people aboard.

Various theories about the crash have been proposed, including one that the airliner was shot down in error by an Italian or other Nato fighter

pursuing another plane carrying either Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Khaddafi or an escaping Libyan rebel air force officer.

The sources said that Massimo Blasi, head of a five-member panel of experts, changed his mind after air force radar operators told his commission that traces previously believed to have been of a fighter plane near the DC-9 could have been of the airliner itself.

The panel, which last year said an air-to-air missile hit the DC-9, is now split on the causes of the crash.

# Gorbachev firmly in control, says Bush

'Big agenda' set for superpower summit

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine, May 28, (Reuters): US President George Bush said today he regarded Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev as politically strong despite enormous economic and social problems in the Soviet Union.

Bush also said there was "a big agenda" for his May 30-June 3 summit with the Soviet president and that he was looking forward to the talks.

Speaking with reporters before a round of golf at the Cape Arundel Golf Club near his seaside vacation home in Kennebunkport, Bush

"My own personal opinion is that he's pretty darn strong there and I said that after talking to an awful lot of Soviet experts," said the President before hitting his ball on the first tee.

His comments contrasted with remarks on Sunday by Secretary of State James Baker and National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft.

Baker told a US television interviewer that the panic buying and independence movements by several Soviet republics including Lithuania were threatening Gorbachev's control from below even though the Soviet leader had strengthened his position from the top since meeting Bush in Malta in December.

The secretary of state said it was important to reach agreements with Moscow as soon as possible to make it harder for any future government to reverse Gorbachev's reforms if he were overthrown.

Scowcroft told another television interviewer it was impossible to predict if Gorbachev would retain power.

While Bush prepared for the summit with a relaxing weekend of golf and boating, Gorbachev made a televised appeal to the Soviet people on Sunday night, asking them to remain calm ahead of planned price rises as Moscow seeks to shift to a more market-oriented economy.

Refreshed by a long holiday weekend on the scenic New England coast, President Bush is ready for hard-nosed discussion with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev on the status of a united Germany and the Baltic independence drive.

Those issues have emerged as major bones of contention at the US-Soviet summit opening in Washington later this week.

"I want to convince Gorbachev, with whom I can talk freely — he's the kind of man you can talk very frankly with — that ... a Germany in Nato not only is no threat to the Soviet Union, but preserves the kind of stable Europe that the Soviets should welcome," Bush said in an interview aimed on Soviet television yesterday.

While bailing Gorbachev is a statesman, Bush said "he may be mad with me over some things because we do have some differences."

Bush said he would not try to exploit any weakness suffered by Gorbachev because of economic problems and ethnic unrest in the Soviet Union.

"I think that when you sit down with a respected world leader, it's not a question of who is stronger, who is weaker, who has got bigger problems, who has got less problems," the president said.

He promised to treat the Soviet people and their leader "with the respect that they deserve."

The Soviet Union's popularity has soared in the United States since the last superpower summit, and Americans increasingly support US military cuts to reflect the lessened tensions, a survey found.

discussed his expectations for this week's summit. The meeting takes place against a backdrop of domestic turmoil for Gorbachev including panic buying of food in anticipation of the end of government price controls and a new wave of ethnic violence in Armenia.

But Bush, who has tied his foreign policy closely to Gorbachev's reform programme, minimised the risk to his summit partner's tenure in office.

## Plans for summit in high gear

WASHINGTON, May 28, (UPI): Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will be travelling with 250 advisers, his own satellite station, six Soviet Zil limousines and 18 Russian airplanes when he arrives this week for the superpower summit.

Instead of Blair House, President George Bush's guest house, Gorbachev has chosen to stay in the Soviet embassy, where he can have his own secure lines of communication.

Despite rising expectations for the summit, US Chief of Protocol Joseph Reed said Gorbachev will be treated as just another "state visitor" with the usual trappings accorded on such occasions, on orders from President Bush.

Reed said Bush wants to institutionalise Gorbachev visits to make them the norm in a relationship, instead of the exception.

"This is the first state visit of the president of the Soviet Union," Reed said. "It will have the specific architecture of a state visit. It's the correct way to do business."

To some observers, however, the Bush decision to treat Gorbachev's trip as a state visit reflects a desire to play it down.

But no matter how it is viewed in the White House and State Department, a Gorbachev visit is still seen as extraordinary and the gathering of the superpower leaders will be touted as a summit.

Gorbachev will arrive from a two-day Canadian state visit 6:30 pm (2230 GMT) Wednesday and will be welcomed at Andrews Air Force Base, just outside Washington, by Secretary of State James Baker, his wife, Susan, and other officials.

There will be a red carpet greeting by Bush on the White House south lawn at 10 am (1400 GMT) Thursday, after which the two presidents will adjourn to the oval office for their first talks since they last met in Malta in December 1989.

The agenda will reflect the historic changes in the past year in Eastern Europe.

Discussions will focus on arms control, including nuclear and conventional forces disarmament, German reunification and its proposed membership in Nato — which Gorbachev opposes — the Baltic states, regional conflicts, Soviet Jewish emigration and an improved trade relationship between Washington and Moscow.

Washington, May 28, (AP): American and Soviet negotiators held two rounds of talks yesterday at the State Department to try to expand an agreement to cut long-range nuclear missiles.

There was no word from officials on either side whether any of the half-dozen issues on the bargaining table were resolved.

A two-sentence notice to the press said the delegations, chaired by Under Secretary of State Reginald Bartholomew and Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Karpov, had in a morning session and resumed work in the afternoon.

The goal was to expand the declaration of an agreement that President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev are due to announce at their summit meeting, which opens here Thursday.



An Uncle Sam hot air balloon flies together with a Russian 'matrioshka' over Leningrad May 27 as visual symbol of the forthcoming Washington summit. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Yeltsin tries again

Proposes coalition

MOSCOW, May 28, (Reuters): Populist politician Boris Yeltsin renewed his bid today to become president of Russia and win a power base to challenge the Soviet leadership, by proposing a coalition with his conservative opponents.

Speaking at a stormy session of the Parliament of the Russian Federation, the largest of the Soviet Union's 15 republics, Yeltsin offered an olive branch to the hardline communists who have twice blocked his path to the presidency.

Moscow shops, meanwhile, began enforcing restrictions on food sales after three days of panic buying sparked by the announcement of plans for huge price increases as part of the Kremlin's economic recovery programme.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, speaking on television yesterday, made a last-lustre defence of the plan to introduce a "regulated market economy" within five years, and deputies in the national Parliament launched fresh attacks on it today.

In the southern republic of Armenia, a recurring hotbed of ethnic tension also posing a challenge to Gorbachev, 22 people, including two soldiers, were reported killed in clashes between Soviet troops and nationalist militants.

More than 100,000 people were expected to attend a rally in the capital, Yerevan, commemorating Armenia's brief independence from 1918 to 1920.

## US-Soviet negotiators try to conclude pact

The declaration, in turn, is to lead to a formal treaty by the end of the year. The details are complex however, and after eight years of negotiations further delay is possible.

Among the issues taken up by Bartholomew, Karpov and their assistants are procedures for verifying compliance with the accord once it is ratified, whether restrictions are to be imposed on Soviet backfire bomber and whether to bar the Soviets from modernising their SS-18 intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Under the treaty the Soviets will cut their arsenal of the heavy ground-based missiles from 308 to 154, but Secretary of State James Baker tentatively agreed in talks May 16-19 in Moscow to permit some new flight tests.



# Yugoslav leader warns of civil war

**BELGRADE, May 28, (Reuters):** Yugoslavia's communist President Boris Jovic today called for a new constitution, saying it would help stabilise the crisis-ridden country and prevent civil war.

Jovic painted a picture of nationwide chaos and said the Balkan federation could explode into violence and tear itself apart, in a state-of-the union speech to Parliament two weeks after taking office.

He said the presidency would organise talks enabling the six republics to settle

differences, and outlined 13 measures to help prevent nationalism and conflict between Yugoslavia's many ethnic groups from increasing.

But he dismissed fears that he would impose a state of emergency or annul the results of free elections which have ended 45 years of communist rule in the wealthy and relatively Westernised republics of Slovenia and Croatia.

The Yugoslav constitution does not specifically provide for the polls held by the two republics, and Jovic has made clear

he believes they are pushing the country towards disintegration.

"Violations of the constitution and law have reached such proportions that they threaten certain vital functions of the state and bring into question the realisation of the social reforms we have begun," Jovic told Parliament.

"The coming to power of extreme right-wing and revanchist forces would create great difficulties. This could lead to civil war and open the possibility of foreign military intervention."

Jovic said Parliament should adopt plans by Prime Minister Ante Markovic's government to amend the Yugoslav constitution and then draw up the first entirely new constitution since 1974.

"The Yugoslav presidency believes the political activity involved in creating a new constitution should be intensified and speeded up," he said.

Jovic, a Serb, became first among equals in the eight-man collective state presidency on May 15 by annual rotation.



**Casts her vote**

An invalid woman casts her vote from a wheelchair in local elections in Warsaw, May 27. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Walesa helps avert strike

**WARSAW, May 28, (Reuters):** Lech Walesa saved the Solidarity-led government from a national rail strike crisis today but many voters signalled apathy towards Poland's new democracy by staying away from landmark local elections.

Walesa persuaded strike leaders late last night to suspend the protest — in support of a 20 per cent pay claim — which had cut rail access to all Poland's ports and thrown down the most serious challenge yet to the government.

His intervention came just in time to stop the strike, centred mainly in northern Poland, from spreading across the country with a 90-minute national warning strike today and an all-out freight stoppage from Tuesday night.

The Solidarity chairman averted the threat of a head-on confrontation between workers and the government that threatened to jeopardise the country's painful economic recovery programme.

Walesa, who had earlier warned the strike could lead to anarchy and civil war, said it reflected the economic hardship faced by working people.

"On our road to democracy, there are various dangerous bends. The railwaymen's protest was one of them," the Solidarity chairman told reporters.

"Everyone must draw lessons and conclusions from this. Too many groups in Polish society have it tough because hardship is not shared out equally. The government and all trade unions should look carefully at the problems of working people."

The strike lasted just over a week and overshadowed yesterday's local elections. Poland's first fully-free nationwide vote for more than half a century and the first since Solidarity replaced the communists in power last year.

Only 42 per cent bothered to cast their ballots in the landmark elections to local councils that will take over the administration of towns, villages and cities from the state.

Some commentators said the low turnout reflected disillusionment with the hardship brought on by the government's reforms.

Real wages have been slashed by a third since the austerity package was launched on January 1, industrial output has plunged by 30 per cent and 400,000 people have been thrown out of work.

Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, beginning a two-day visit to France today, told the daily Ouest-France newspaper that Poland urgently needed relief on its \$38 billion foreign debt to keep it reformed on track.

## Aoun frees 30 rival prisoners

**Tension eases in East Beirut**

**BEIRUT, May 28, (Agencies):** Christian military leader Gen. Michel Aoun yesterday freed 30 rival Lebanese Forces militiamen taken prisoner during four months of a fierce power struggle between the two warring factions, officials said.

The officials said the prisoners, who were held at cells on the eastern outskirts of East Beirut, were accompanied to militia-patrolled areas by a Red Cross convoy.

Their release was the result of intensive goodwill efforts by Pope John Paul II, who appealed to the rivals last week to stop fighting for control of the Christian enclave.

The Pope's appeal came one day after Papal Nuncio Pablo Puente announced a five-point agreement, approved by the two sides, to end the fighting in Beirut's Christian enclave. He said the agreement was only a partial solution, however.

At least 700 members of Samir Geagea's militia remain in Aoun's prisons, political sources said. They said Geagea's militia has captured about 1,000 troops of Aoun's army.

Aoun and Geagea have been locked in a fierce struggle for control of the 310-square-mile (800 sq) Christian enclave in Lebanon since Jan 31. The fighting has left more than 1,000 people dead and 3,740 others wounded.

Some 200,000 Christians have fled the fighting in the enclave, with many seeking refuge and a stable future for their children in Canada and Europe.

Officials said a number of schools, encouraged by a truce mediated earlier this month by Iraq, planned to resume classes throughout the battered Christian region today.

More than 100 schools have been destroyed or damaged and more than 100,000 students have been affected by the violence.

Militia officials started organising makeshift schools for children just last week out of fears the violence would drag on.

Puente said the weekend agreement calls for a permanent truce, reopening schools, the release of all prisoners and the suspension of the rival's war of words.

The papal initiative came as Syria and Iraq appeared competing to boost their influence in the inter-Christian struggle.

Israeli soldiers shot dead a commando in their self-declared security zone in south Lebanon today, security sources said.

The sources had no further details on the clash in the Salhani area.

## Saleh pledge Neutral Yemen

**KUWAIT, May 28, (Kuna):** President of the newly united Republic of Yemen Ali Abdallah Saleh has underlined that the foreign policy of the infant state would adhere to the principles of non-alignment, indicating that all agreements signed by each country before the merger would be honoured.

In two separate interviews with Kuwaiti dailies Saleh said the declaration on the Yemeni unification has stipulated commitment to all agreements signed unilaterally by each party. He added that if any of those agreements were prompted by certain pre-unity reasons, then it would be an internal affair of the new state which it would handle along with other issues resulting from division.

Asked on whether the Soviet perestroika or the winds of change that swept Eastern Europe recently had accelerated the declaration of unity, President Saleh said the Yemeni unity was not an offshoot of this or that, saying it was a result of 20 years of dialogue.

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## PFLP to launch party in Jordan

**AMMAN, May 28, (Reuters):** A radical Palestinian group, once a sworn enemy of Jordan's Hashemite monarchy, is to found a political party in the kingdom, an official of the group said today.

He said leaders of the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) agreed the move after lengthy talks with their supporters in Jordan.

The official, who requested anonymity, told Reuters the party would be officially proclaimed at a meeting of the PFLP Central Committee in Damascus next month.

Two decades ago the PFLP was urging the overthrow of King Hussein. Its hijacking of four airliners helped spark "Black September", a bloody war between Palestinian fighters and Jordanian troops in 1970.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran has met PFLP politburo members Tayseer Qubaa and Azmi Khawaja in the first meeting between the government and the faction since then.

The Syrian-based Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, like the PFLP a part of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, set up the Jordan People's Democratic Party in July.

The PFLP official said there was no final agreement yet on his party's name.

"It will be a pan-Arabist party, will seek guidance from Marxism and Leninism and will be open for anyone to join, be he a Jordanian or a Palestinian," he said.

The new party would be independent from Damascus, work within the constitution and seek to promote unity among Jordanians, many of whom are of Palestinian origin.

King Hussein has promised his three million people a national charter leading to some sort of multi-party system. A royal commission is now working on details.

Amman has not yet lifted the ban imposed since 1957 on political parties. But it allowed people known to be members of political groups to contest the November elections.

Jordan's 1988 disengagement from the Israeli-held West Bank and its recognition of a Palestinian state met the demands of many radical PLO groups, including the PFLP.

A Syria-based Palestinian group has urged the Arab summit to give more money for an anti-Israeli uprising and seek a UN observer force for the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In a letter to Arab leaders, the DFLP said they should review their ties to the United States as long as it failed to recognise the PLO as sole representative of Palestinians.

**Turkey jail break**

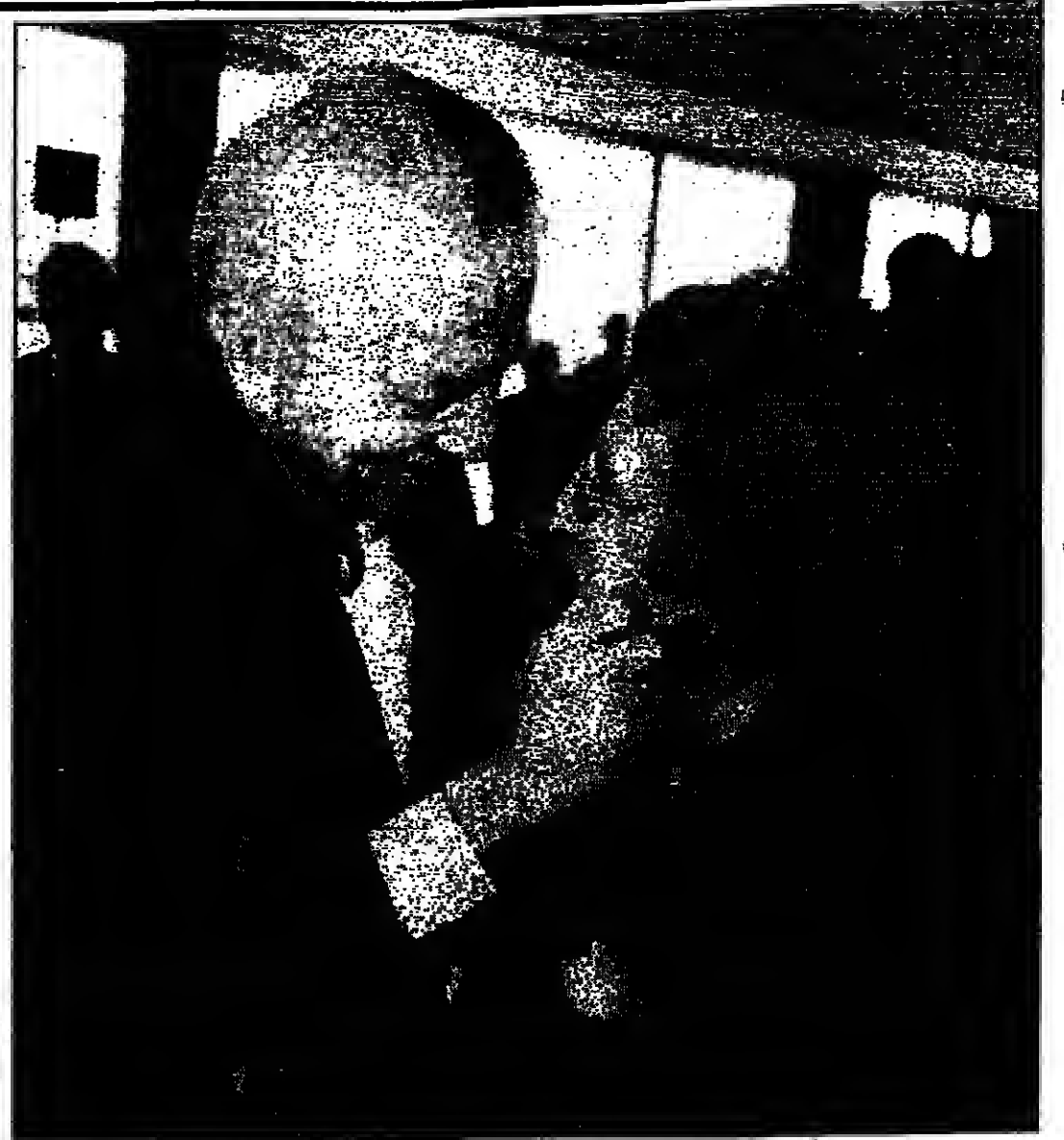
**ISTANBUL, May 28, (Reuters):** Five left-wing militants escaped today from a jail in a residential area on the outskirts of Istanbul, prison officials said.

The semi-official Anatolian news agency said two of the escapees were under sentence of death for the killing of former Prime Minister Nihat Erim.

They had also been found guilty of attempted murder and a series of robberies and bombings, it said.

The escape was discovered after the father of one of the militants arrived to visit his son and he was found to be missing.

Prison officials said a widespread search was launched and a watch was being kept on airports, bus stations and ferry terminals.



Reed greets his mother, Leota Reed Aprague, 91, upon his arrival at Logan airport, May 27. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Reed feels elated

Hostages on his mind

**BOSTON, May 28, (UPI):** Although clearly elated during an emotional reunion with his 91-year-old mother in his native state, former hostage Frank Reed continued his passionate advocacy for the captives he left behind in Lebanon.

Reed saw his mother yesterday for the first time since he left Boston in 1982, but used the Memorial Day weekend celebration to again remember "mates" who he says are not faring well in captivity.

"This weekend, we are memorialising the dead that fought for our country. Let us hope that one day we don't have to have a day to memorialise the hostages that are dead, or will die," Reed said.

"Let's not forget that there are still six Americans still in captivity, and the news is not good as far as I'm concerned. The hostages are not well."

Reed said he felt an "obligation, a duty" to them, and said he was "worrying about my mates that I left behind." His attorney, Bob Woolf, abruptly ended the news conference when reporters pressed the former hostage for more information on the other captives' plight.

More than 50 people turned out at Logan International Airport on a sunny day to welcome back the 57-year-old educator, who was held hostage for 44 months before being freed April 30. Many applauded as he emerged from the plane.

"I want to say I love you, Boston, and I love all of you for coming out to see me," said Reed, after crouching to whisper to and embrace his mother for several minutes.

"How can you ever forget a mother? Mothers are always great," he said. "She looks lovely, my mother. My mother's a tough gal."

"I say rejoice, give thanks. He's back," said Leota Sprague, who was in a wheelchair to greet her son. "I feel as good as can be. I'm just so thankful for the day, for the sunshine."

Reed was kidnapped in West Beirut on Sept. 9, 1986. He had moved to Lebanon in 1977 and worked at the University of Beirut before founding the Lebanese International School. He converted to Islam to marry his Syrian-born wife, Fahimeh.

"It's just like a long-lost friend coming home. I brought the kids, it's so exciting," said John Ferguson, who said he worked briefly as a salesman with Reed 15 years ago.

Reed said he expected to spend time "enjoying Boston, enjoying my family" during his three-day visit, before returning Wednesday to a hospital outside Washington.

Dressed in a dark suit, Reed said he had weighed just 133 pounds (60 kg) when he was freed, down from 185 (85 kg) when he was released from captivity, and said he had been "severely malnourished" during the ordeal.

"What we've been doing, basically, as far as my health goes, is trying to do some medical sleuthing, trying to find out some things, why I am so severely anemic," he said.

"In spite of it all, they say my heart is fine. My lungs are fine. My liver's fine. I'm still feisty, still try to be as tough as I can about a few things."

"I'm not going to spend four years in captivity and come out and have something happen here. I hope."

Woolf said the ex-hostage has gained 18 pounds (8 kg) since being freed and shot a 41 over nine holes of golf in Maryland.

A motorcade with four limousines took Reed and his family, including his wife, to his daughter's home in suburban Malden for a lobster dinner and family reunion.

**Doctors flushing out drugs:** Doctors at a suburban hospital were helping nature produce the evidence on Monday from 13 Nigerians arrested for allegedly swallowing containers of heroin in a smuggling scheme.

Two pregnant women were among the five women and eight men intercepted on Sunday night at Cairo International Airport after a flight from Bangkok, Thailand. Police said they swallowed the illegal narcotics in capsules and plastic tubes.

A western narcotics expert estimated the haul at 10 kilograms (22 pounds) representing a street value in the United States of close to \$2 million. Newspaper reports placed the size of the cache at twice that. (AP)

**Militants attack:** Militants equipped with petrol bombs ambushed a police van in Upper Egypt and injured four police officers, a Cairo newspaper said.

The militants threw two bombs at a van carrying 10 officers in Qena governorate on Saturday, but only one exploded, an early edition of Monday's newspaper Al-Akhar reported. (Reuters)

**Drug smuggling:** An Egyptian criminal court on Sunday sentenced two Jordanians to life in prison at hard labour for drug smuggling and acquitted eight others of similar charges.

Among the eight acquitted are Jacob Mezrahi, and Israeli, Lebanese-born naturalised American Kayed Bero and his father, Mohammed Hussein Bero, a Lebanese.

The three, on the loose, were sentenced in absentia to death last June in a case involving 19 alleged drug smugglers, but their appeal has been accepted by the court of cassation and the case is to be retried next month. (AP)

**End Jewish racism:** Amos Oz, one of Israel's most respected novelists, has called for Palestinian statehood and an end to "Jewish racism."

He also called for Palestinian restraint after the "monstrous, mad massacre" of Palestinians two weeks ago.

Oz, delivering a speech to an Israeli "Peace Now" gathering in Jerusalem on Saturday night, said.

"The tragic status quo between ourselves and the Palestinians... was shattered by the PLO's implied recognition of Israel. Everybody knows this; even those (Israelis) who stubbornly refuse to know it in their heart of hearts."

"From this shattered status quo we may not retreat back to the Arab effort to exterminate Israel — or to the Israeli repression of the Palestinians." (Kuna)

## MP calls for action to defuse tension

**LONDON, May 28, (Kuna):** A British MP has called today for urgent action to defuse racial tension in the UK after renewed violence erupted in the northern city of Bradford over the Salman Rushdie affair.

Opposition Labour Party MP for Bradford west Max Maddon said he planned to introduce a bill in Parliament to make incitement to religious hatred an offence throughout the country.

This followed a demonstration in the city yesterday in which 16 youths were arrested and three injured during a demonstration against Salman Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses".

Maddon called on the Indian-born author to apologise for the offence caused to Muslims by his novel and to cancel the paperback version.

He said the UK government should repeal the current law of blasphemy, which applies only to Christianity, putting in its place a new law making incitement to religious hatred an offence.

Meanwhile, Muslim leaders in Bradford have called a halt to public marches and demonstrations over Salman Rushdie because they believe public rallies are "too vulnerable to provocateurs and others looking for trouble".

Sher Azam, president of the Bradford council of mosques told the UK media that people outside the Muslim community were doing their best to disrupt the protests, "so for the time being we are suspending all outdoor demonstrations."

## Underground schools in Beirut face an uphill task of educating children

**ASHRAFIYEH, Lebanon, May 28, (UPI):** Under a shell-pocked 11-storey building in the east Beirut neighbourhood of Ashrafiyeh, 30 children aged 4 to 13 struggle to read by dim candlelight in a cavernous basement.

"They have forgotten many things, such as counting or identifying drawn animals," said Hoda Azzam, 24, the teacher of a dozen of the children, who clustered around her in a scene reminiscent of the middle ages.

Christians have established a number of such makeshift schools in embattled Beirut, but many

children, exposed daily to the atrocities of a bitter war, have lost the capacity to learn and turned violent, educators say.

Since the end of January, east Beirut has been a battleground in a power struggle between Christian strongman Michel Aoun and his Christian rival Samir Geagea. Over 1,000 people have died in the fighting and thousands more have lost their homes and livelihoods to the almost constant pounding of heavy artillery and screaming shells.

"It's a difficult task," said Azzam of her students. "They keep quarrelling among each other. They

have largely lost their capability to concentrate and learn, apparently because of the deafening shellfire blasts."

The smell of food overwhelmed her makeshift class as several families who live in the basement cooked in a corner. The coarse voices of four men playing cards echoed through the chamber, drowning out the instructions of the young teacher.

Alfred Madi, a member of the Christian Phalange Party politburo who is attempting to create a network of underground classrooms, said his group has managed to organise three schools serving about

700 children.

"We realise that it's not a perfect deed, but we want to collect our children from the streets where they imitate the adults and fight mock street battles with wood-made rifles and dummy pistols," said Madi.

"We definitely don't want them to follow our example, we wish them a peaceful future."

Officials said the ongoing warfare between Aoun and Geagea has destroyed or damaged more than 100 schools in the 310-square-mile Christian enclave that encompasses east Beirut and nearby towns.



## Arab leaders misunderstood US stance

## Baker favours UN probe team

NEW YORK, May 28, (Reuters): US Secretary of State James Baker said yesterday he wanted the United Nations to dispatch an investigative team to the Israeli occupied territories but denied that he favoured sending Security Council observers to the violence-torn areas.

Baker angered Israel last week when he

said Washington was willing to consider sending UN observers to the occupied territories, where 22 Palestinians have been killed and hundreds wounded in unrest since an Israeli gunman killed seven Arab workers near Tel Aviv on May 20.

"The position we took... was that we would support an investigative mission sent by the secretary general of the United Nations, to go check on the situation in the territories and report back," Baker said.

"That was our position yesterday and the day before yesterday. It will be our position when the United Nations Security Council reconvenes in New York next

week and we hope that the government of Israel will support that position."

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat urged the UN Security Council meeting in Geneva on Friday and Saturday to send UN observers to the occupied areas. The United States voted against Security Council involvement.

Asked about claims from Arab leaders that he had agreed to send a mission from the Security Council to the occupied territories, where Palestinians have been waging an anti-Israeli uprising for the past 29 months, Baker said:

"They must have misunderstood because that was not the policy action and decision we took in the State Department."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, in a television interview yesterday, meanwhile ruled out allowing any UN observers into the territories, saying they would only raise tensions and harm prospects for peace.

UN observers "will bring only tensions. We don't need foreign military men to police the country, the area. We need peaceful talks. That only," Shamir said.

## Call for resignation rejected

## Peres wants another chance

OCCUPIED, Jerusalem, May 28, (Reuters): Israel's Labour Party has blamed its leader Shimon Peres for losing the last election but he says he wants another chance.

Peres, 66, has not won an election in 13 years as Labour Party leader. He was chastised for the 1988 result in a party inquiry made public yesterday.

"To speak openly and simply, the basic assumption of the campaign was that Peres was the electoral asset and the party was the liability," party rival Yitzhak Rabin said.

"This concept was proven incorrect and given expression in the election results," Rabin, a 68-year-old former defence minister, told reporters.

Peres told his 1,300-member central committee that any other politician would have fared as poorly because religious parties biding the balance of power had abandoned Labour long before he took over the leadership.

After elections in 1988, Labour joined as junior partner in a unity government with hardline Likud Party Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, 74, who sacked Peres in March in a row over peace moves. Other Labour ministers then walked out of the government.

His voice cracking, Peres rejected the call of one speaker for his resignation by saying: "You are not my judge. My judge is this group."

Labour brought down the 15-month unity government over Likud's refusal to accept US proposals for the first-ever peace talks with Palestinians in Israeli-occupied lands.

Peres failed to form an alternative dovish cabinet. Shamir is trying to form a narrow rightist coalition, but politicians will not rule out the possibility that the two men will ultimately join in another unity government.

On US television yesterday, Shamir played down reports of tensions with Washington. Israel's closest ally, over stalled peace efforts and a surge of violence in the occupied lands.

In Baghdad, Iraq's campaign for support against Israel and the West fell short of its target yesterday when at least five heads of state failed to show up for an Arab summit meeting.

**Latest:** Israel's Parliament, responding to widespread public disgust at recent political horse-trading, took a small step towards reform today.

It approved on first reading four bills providing for the direct election of a prime minister and other electoral changes. The bills are likely to be delayed in committee before returning to the house for mandatory second and third readings.



Peres holds his head May 27, while defending himself against a party report blaming him in part for Labour's failures. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Profile

## 30 years promoting Arab cause in US

## Activist Mehdi

NEW YORK, May 28, (AP): In his 30 years as an activist for Arab-Islamic causes in America, Mohammad T. Mehdi has been jailed after burning an Israeli flag, had his back broken in a beating and seen his office burned.

But those were darker days. Now, Mehdi believes that by the end of the decade there will be changes in US attitudes toward Arabs and Muslims, as well as changes in US policy in the Middle East.

"Thirty years ago, the word Arab was a nasty word in the American vocabulary," Mehdi said prior to a recent banquet held by friends and associates to recognize his three decades as an activist.

But last year, for the first time, a contingent of Muslims was invited to a presidential inaugural worship service, he said. And recently, Mehdi was asked by New York mayor David Dinkins to attend a meeting of various community leaders — another first, he said.

When Mehdi began his work, only a fraction of Americans agreed with the Arab side on such issues as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, he said. But that was before the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon and before the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which brought nightly images of violence to US television screens, including Palestinian children shot by troops' bullets.

A Washington Post-ABC news poll about a year ago indicated that seven out of 10 Americans believed Israel should negotiate directly with the Palestinian Liberation Organisation. It also showed that six out of 10 Americans had a favourable view of Israel, compared with four out of 10 four months earlier during a peak of news coverage on the uprising.

One factor bearing on Americans' views is that there are thousands of new immigrants from the Third World, including many from Muslim countries.

"America is no longer a Judeo-Christian society any more than it is an Anglo-Saxon society," Mehdi said.

With the number of Muslims growing, and with their ties to some 1 billion Muslims around the world, Mehdi sees a mushrooming political force.

"American Muslims are the link," he said. Mehdi believes that the turn in the Cold War, which had cast Israel in the role of vital anti-communist ally to the United States, will lead to the down-grading of US-Israeli ties.

"For years everyone swore by Chiang Kai-Shek as the bulwark of democracy against communism in the Far East. Today, hardly anyone knows who he is," Mehdi said of the late Chinese Nationalist leader of Taiwan, then commonly known as Formosa.

"Israel is the Formosa of the Middle East," Mehdi said. Mehdi, who was born in Iraq, came to the United States in 1948 for postgraduate study at the University of California at Berkeley, where he took a doctorate degree in American constitutional law.

Friends from those days remember him as a radical with a long shock of black hair, always ready to debate. They recall his deep convictions, and optimism.

Today, the hair is thinning and graying, but Mehdi is still optimistic. He believes there will be a Palestinian state and peace in the Middle East within his lifetime.

His activism, he said, stemmed from his belief in America's "open society."

"There has been an obsession of mine — a love affair — with the first amendment" to the US constitution, which guarantees freedom of speech and religion.

Growing up in Iraq, Mehdi did not have the freedom to express opinion.

"I was born in Baghdad, but I was reborn in Berkeley," he said. Yet Mehdi found restrictions on speech in America when the subject was Palestine and the stance was pro-Arab. He showed up for a radio talk show in California once to find that the programme was cancelled because a Jewish leader refused to appear with him.

## One dead, 9 injured in Jerusalem blast

## Fatah uprising claims responsibility

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 28, (Agencies): A pipebomb exploded today in a Jerusalem market crowded with holiday shoppers, killing an elderly man and wounding nine other Jews, police said.

Police rounded up 87 Arab suspects after the explosion, which occurred at about 12:30 pm (0930 GMT) in the Mahane Yehuda market, which is the main Jewish market in Jerusalem.

Ten people were taken to hospitals for treatment and two were later released. Shimon Cohen, 72, died nearly six hours after the attack at Sha'arei Zedek Hospital, police said.

The bus was badly damaged and the person who planted the bomb evaded capture, he said. Israeli police described the device as a pipebomb and said it was concealed in a drinks stand in the market.

A crowd of about 200 angry shoppers gathered near the scene, and dozens of Israelis tried to attack young Palestinians who were detained by police, shouting "death to the Arabs" and "burn them, burn them."

In one incident, a crowd of about 25 Israelis surrounded a police van and pounded on the vehicle in an effort to get at one Arab who had been detained.

However, in other cases, Israeli stall owners sheltered Arab workers from the wrath of the crowd.

Stones were also hurled at journalists and one photographer was taken to a hospital after being punched and kicked by three watermelon vendors.

"We will not allow any acts of revenge," vowed police commissioner Yaakov Turpin on Israeli radio.

At the police station near the market, a reporter saw three border policemen armed with rifles standing guard over eight young Palestinians. The Arabs were kneeling and facing a wall.

The bombing occurred about 12 noon (0900 GMT) as Israelis shopped for fruit and vegetables for the Jewish holiday of Shavuot, or the feast of weeks, which starts tomorrow evening. Shavuot is a harvest festival and marks the day when ancient Israelites received the Ten Commandments.

Israeli politicians linked the bombing to the Arab summit which started in the Iraqi capital, today.

"I think that whoever planted that bomb in the market was signalling to those meeting in Baghdad," said Yossi Ben Aharon, a top aide to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

A visiting French minister said yesterday that Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories had reached a point of despair that could lead to worse violence in coming weeks.

Bernard Kouchner, secretary of state for humanitarian aid, gave the assessment in summing a four-day tour of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and a meeting with Shamir.

"I felt tension and desperation that I have never previously experienced. I felt a very deep despair which can lead to even more serious confrontations in the coming days and weeks," he told a news conference.

Kouchner, sent by President Francois Mitterrand after a new wave of violence in the occupation zone, said Arab hospitals were overwhelmed by the number of wounded and complained that troops were preventing ambulances from evacuating casualties.

Some 200 people have started a hunger strike in the diplomatic mission of the PLO in Budapest to protest Israel's actions against Palestinians, the state news agency MTI reported.

A number of Jews last Saturday attacked two Italian youth in Rome after participating in demonstration in solidarity with Palestine.

The two Italians were beaten badly and one of them was taken to hospital.

A human rights group monitoring the occupied territories has issued a report saying the army's decisions on lifting curfews were "arbitrary" and did not allow Palestinians to stockpile enough food.



An Israeli man wounded in the May 28 market pipe bombing is carried into an ambulance after the attack occurred. The man's shirt is soaked in blood. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Funds for old city settlement

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 28, (Reuters): An Israeli parliamentary panel today retroactively approved the government's \$1.8 million financing of a controversial Jewish settlement in the Christian quarter of Jerusalem's old city.

Right-wing and religious parliamentarians defeated the Labour Party and its leftist allies to win the vote 13 to 11, a finance committee spokesman said.

The establishment last month of the settlement by 150 religious Jews in a hospice owned by the Greek Orthodox patriarchate sparked an international outcry. The church claimed the lease had been bought illegally.

The government admitted 11 days after the settlers moved in that the Housing Ministry had paid \$1.8 million to a Panamanian front company to help finance the deal.

All but 20 of the settlers were ordered by a court to vacate the hospice pending a ruling on the legality of the deal.

## Palestinians on indefinite fast, admit latest attack has revived world attention

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, May 28, (Reuters): Photographs of the Arab victims of a deranged Israeli gunman greet visitors to the courtyard of Occupied Jerusalem's Red Cross building where Palestinian leaders are on indefinite hunger strike.

The hunger strikers — men and women of varying ages — seize on foreign visitors to tell the story of their struggle for a Palestinian state and their drive to end Israel's 23-year occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The 50 fasting Palestinians, though outraged, do not deny that the bloody attack by Ami Popper on

## Bahrain receives F-16 jet fighters

## Sheikh Hamad inspects

MANAMA, May 28, (AP): The Deputy Amir, Sheikh Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa today inspected newly arrived F-16 jet fighters and said they would contribute to the Arab world's growth in military prowess, the official news agency reported.

"The Arab nation will regain its natural place among the nations of the world by God's will and by force of the efforts being exerted in the field of modern science and technology," Sheikh Hamad said.

"It will not be easy, as (it was) in the past, for the enemies of this nation to flout their potentials at will," he said in the statement distributed by the Gulf News Agency.

"Technological superiority will not remain a monopoly of some to exercise hegemony over those lagging behind," he said.

Bahrain has 16 of the F-16 jet fighters on order, and the first batch believed to be four, recently were flown from the United

States by US-trained Bahraini pilots.

Official confirmation of their arrival appeared timed to coincide with the opening of the emergency Arab summit conference in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad where focus is on perceived Israeli threats to the Arab world.

Sheikh Hamad, who is the commander in chief of Bahrain defence force, is the crown prince and acting ruler while the Amir, Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, takes part in the summit.

Sheikh Hamad also affirmed that "the Bahraini Amir Air Force is an indivisible part of the defence policy of the Gulf Cooperation Council."

There was no immediate reaction to the offer from Afghan resistance leaders based in Pakistan, but the rebels have rejected all previous peace proposals by the Kabul government and have refused to negotiate or share power with members of Najibullah's People's Democratic Party (PDDPA).

The rebels, who are based mostly in Pakistan and backed by the United States and Saudi Arabia, have had little military success despite the February 1989 withdrawal of Soviet troops jacking the government.

Najibullah, meanwhile, has defied Western predictions of his swift overthrow following the Soviet pullout.

Washington and Moscow have reportedly narrowed their differences on Afghanistan recently, and the United States earlier this year dropped its insistence that Najibullah step down prior to the start of any peace negotiations.

However, Najibullah has rejected US calls he transfer power to an interim government prior to any elections.

Najibullah opened a grand tribal assembly today with a call for an international conference to end a civil war that has torn Afghanistan for 12 years.

Addressing a long-awaited Loya Jirga, a traditional tribal assembly, Najibullah said the international conference should discuss external aspects of the Afghan war and include all countries directly or indirectly involved with the conflict.

Their hunger strike, Braving sweltering heat yesterday, about 100 activists temporarily joined the ranks of the 50 fasting Palestinians lying on mattresses beneath a canopy outside the Red Cross building.

Foreign visitors have included Western diplomats and a Soviet delegation visiting the occupied territories. There have also been some Jewish peace activists and hordes of journalists.

The hunger strikers have demanded a meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss violence in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, an indepen-

dent investigation of Israeli practices and international protection for the territories.

"Our first demand has already been met... now we are in the second stage," said Palestinian activist Faisal Al Hussein, referring to a meeting of the Security Council at the weekend.

The council held a special two-day session in Geneva to allow Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat to speak. It considered his request to send UN observers to the occupied territories but delayed any action.

## Baath scores victory

DAMASCUS, May 28, (AP): The ruling Baath Party won 134 seats in elections for Syria's 250-member Parliament, Interior Minister Mohammed Harba announced yesterday.

Five leftist parties allied with the Baath in the National Progressive Front won a total of 32. About two-thirds of the seats were allocated for the Front. Independents won 84 seats.

Harba said 21 women were among those elected to parliamentary seats.

The Parliament is the fifth to be elected under the rule of President Hafez Al Assad, who is also the Baath Party leader, since Assad came to power in a military coup in 1970.

The number of seats in the Parliament was expanded in this election to 250 from the former 195.

Harba earlier called this a bid to "ensure the largest representation of the people, especially that about one-third of the seats are for independents."

Turnout in the election was 60 percent of eligible voters resident in Syria, Harba said. A total of 9,765 candidates competed for the 250 seats.

Informed sources outside Syria, commenting on the election, say Assad's firm grip on the reins of power is unchanged.

Prominent among the winners were Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zu'bi, chairwoman of the Syrian Women Union Bashira Al Makni and Jameel Al-Assad, the brother of Syrian leader.



# Hydrographic survey charts Kuwaiti waters

Estimated cost KD 2 million

SEVERAL locations in Kuwait's territorial waters pose a great danger to boats and other areas are considered hazardous to swimmers which prompted the Ministry of Communications to conduct a comprehensive survey to indicate these locations at sea and provide safe and secure navigational paths.

The head of the Marine Transportation Projects section, Ali Ahmad, indicated that the ministry distributed guide posts along with navigational lights from the far north of Oaha Island to the deepest south of the Kuwaiti territorial waters at Umm

Al Maradim Island.

Meanwhile, director of the technical affairs department at the Ministry of Communications, Engineer Nabeel Mulla Husain said that the survey conducted included the printing of 66,000 marine maps and cost an estimated KD 2 million. He said that the project yielded good results and supported studies and researches conducted by other government authorities. He stressed on the importance of the hydrographic survey of the territorial waters in measuring the depth of water at all locations and drawing marine maps

used by sailors.

He pointed out that six boats took part in the survey project, the main boat was 125 feet long working round the hour at deeper locations, in addition to five other boats 27 feet long each for shallow waters. He indicated that all boats were fully prepared and equipped with advanced survey devices and computers to store data collected.

He added that hundreds of samples were collected during the survey to test the soil at different locations. In addition to these samples the project included survey works

for nearly 112 marine obstacles.

He said that the technical affairs department will in the near future seek to train Kuwaiti youths on surveying, hoping to establish a Kuwaiti hydrographic office.

Meanwhile, head of the Marine Transportation Project section, Ali Ahmad said that the ministry is currently studying a project to modernise the old Failaka port. The project will include deepening the port and building a channel to the southern exit, in addition to restoring the port sides. He stated that the project also comprises building administration offices.

# Higher education draft under revision: Haroun

Experts to help frame law

THE Undersecretary of Ministry of Higher Education Dr. Mused Al Haroun has said that a consultative committee set up by the minister of higher education is now revising the new draft law of higher education submitted by the legal affairs committee.

He added that several copies of the draft law were sent to some scientific and academic institutions in Kuwait and abroad. The ministry also invited a number of experts to help the committee in framing the law. He added that the students union submitted its views and comments on the draft law that are being studied along with comments of peers and establishments of repute.

Haroun pointed out that the ministry is also preparing the unified charter of scholarships which is intended to solve many problems that are facing Kuwaiti students abroad. He added that scholarships plan for this year took into consideration the Five-Year Plan of the state, outputs of secondary schools inputs of Kuwait University and Public Authority for Applied Education and Training and the actual needs of the labour market. In this development, the official said letters to 49 government and non-government establishments have been sent to know their requirements and needs of graduates. Their answers encouraged the ministry to start its scholarships plan for the next five years.

The ministry has also set a unified system for scholarships submitted by Kuwait to other countries and organisations. A proposal to set up a central committee to set the general policy for scholarships was submitted. The plan will determine the needs of the state for scholarships and different majors and criteria for these scholarships. He added that the central committee will consist of representatives of Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Education, Awqaf and Higher Education as well as National Council for Culture Arts and Letters, Kuwait.

University and the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training.

He pointed out that one of the policies of the ministry is to develop work at the cultural offices of Kuwait abroad. The ministry aims at giving more authority to these offices in taking decisions as the cultural offices play a vital and basic role in supervising Kuwaiti students abroad and in solving their problems. The ministry will provide these offices with required qualifications and experiences, develop the administrative systems and enhance the use of computers in their activities and duties. The ministry is also studying the viability to open new cultural offices in some foreign countries, he said.

Haroun said that the committee set up by the ministry to set the organisational structure of the ministry has completed its work and the committee has invited a number of specialists and former ministers in some Arab countries for this purpose. The committee is now setting the employment classification of different jobs at the ministry beside the organisational directory of different departments.

## Departments

The ministry will consist of several departments such as scholarships, cultural relations, public relations, information, administrative affairs, and financial affairs departments beside two specialised centres one of development of higher education and other the information centre that will contain the library and computers. He added that Kuwait University will be an independent institution headed by a rector and supervised by a council headed by the minister of higher education. A new university will be established at Shadadiya area at the end of this century which also will be independent with cultural and academic relations with the present university. The work of building the new university will start after five years, Haroun said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Area evaluation

KUWAIT Municipality is currently involved in a comprehensive evaluation of all the commercial areas at Al Jahra Governorate, the daily Al Seyassah reported.

Meanwhile, the daily learnt that the municipality affairs committee agreed to reorganise Block No. 41 at Al Jahra Area in addition to discussing the possibility of expropriating the real estate situated in the north western area of Al Jahra, in addition to completion of the relevant procedures for distributing some plots at the governorate.

On the other hand, the committee agreed in principle to allocate an adequate area for the Al Khairan Resort project. Additionally, the committee at the request of Al Jahra Governor, Sheikh Ali Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah agreed to build four pedestrian flyovers at Al Jahra Express Road, Al Bakri Street, Al Araf area and Bishr Bin Ahi Awanath Street — opposite of Al Jahra Hospital.

### Summit effort

BAGHDAD, May 28. (Kuna): A Kuwaiti official yesterday said here that the Arab emergency summit, will differ from other summits and will work on making the Arab nation capable of repelling aggressions.

Abdel Hamid Al Baijan, director of Arab department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs added that the present time is the most delicate stage of world's history.

Baijan, who is a member of the Kuwaiti delegation to the Arab summit led by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed, pointed out to the importance of the summit during the time.

He praised the Iraqi concern and efforts at all levels to hold the summit.

### Haj call

JEDDAH, May 28. (Kuna): Secretary-General of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), Hamid Al Gabid, yesterday called on the OIC member states to co-operate fully with Saudi Arabia to ensure the success of haj season late next month.

"I call upon them (Muslims) to respect the generous hospitality offered to them by the brotherly people of Saudi Arabia," said Gabid in a message to Muslims on the occasion of the haj season.

Gabid also called on Muslims to avoid all actions "liable to perturb the peace and security of pilgrims and abstain from any dispute or demonstrations incompatible with the known rites of haj such as have always been practiced."

"Islam teaches discipline, love and brotherhood," said Gabid. "I hope that they arrive to this holy land full of fervour and perform their religious duties with the kind humility, dignity and respect in keeping with the solemn and sacred nature of the event and places."

### Omani minister

RIYADH, May 28. (Kuna): Omani's Trade and Industry Minister Saleem Bin Abdullah Al Ghazali arrived here yesterday and conferred with Saudi officials on ways to strengthen trade exchange between his country and the kingdom, an official source said.

Ghazali met with his Saudi counterpart Suleiman Al Salim and Electricity Minister Abdul Aziz Al Zamel.

The talks in the two separate meetings centred on economic co-operation between Muscat and Riyadh and preparations for the meeting next month of a committee co-ordinating such co-operation among the six GCC countries, the source said.

The Omani official also met with GCC secretary-general Abdulla Yaquob Bishara before the latter flew to Baghdad.

### Agreement signed

TEHRAN, May 28. (Kuna): Iran and Qatar have signed a memorandum of understanding in Qatar to strengthen co-operation between them in the fields of agriculture and trade, Radio Tehran announced.

According to the radio, the memorandum was signed by Iranian Agriculture Minister Isa Kalantari and Qatar's Agriculture Minister Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassim Al Thani.

# Kuwaiti family in transition...

Changing values

## Special Report

By Diana Abou Halder

Arab Times staff



Dr. Najat Al Mutawa



Hamad Al Suaidan



Fadel Khalaf



Sheikhha Al Zahem

"LISTEN to what I'm going to tell you my daughter. Your God is one, your grave is one and your husband is one. Mohammed Sal-man asked for your hand in marriage and you are going to marry him."

This is what Umm Fatima's father told her one afternoon more than 33 years ago when she was seventeen. She obediently obliged. The word "no" was not in a girl's vocabulary when talking to her father.

A lot has changed in the Kuwaiti family since then, not only in decision-making and relationships among its members, but also in the family's composition and function. The accelerated change mainly caused by the oil boom was inevitable.

"The Kuwaiti family today is neither the extended family it used to be nor the isolated nuclear family of the West. It is a transitional family which has features of both," says Dr. Fadel Al Nasser of the Sociology Department at Kuwait University.

Nasser explains that although the Kuwaiti family today mostly consists of a couple and their children, their ties with their own families remain extremely strong. "They still visit their families very often, get together on Fridays and leave the kids with grandparents, aunts or uncles."

More and more young couples are opting for their own apartments or houses, but a number of them still find it more convenient to live with parents or in-laws.

Umm Fatima loves the feeling of closeness living in an extended family provides. Before she got married, she used to live in a 6-room house in Hawalli with her mother, father, her father's second wife and her brothers and sisters.

Haya (not her real name), her 26-year-old daughter who is expecting her first baby soon, also has no qualms about living with her in-laws. "I had the choice when I was married to have my own house or live with them. I chose to live with them because I could not cook or run a household. I also have a job that keeps me busy all morning."

Haya's younger sister, Hissa (not her real name) who is 19 does not agree with her. "I would rather live on my own because I don't like living with people I don't really know. I like to have lunch or go out whenever I want without having to answer to anybody."

But although Hissa sounds like a social rebel in comparison to her mother and sister, she says that she would agree to a family-arranged marriage provided she gets a chance to meet the suitor and get to know him. "I will never marry without my family approval," Hissa asserts.

Loulousa (not her real name), 32, who lives with her husband and daughter in an apartment overlooking the Gulf, also believes that it is healthier for couples to have a place of their own. "I could work out problems between my husband and myself better away from our families. Also, there are these little things that might build up and cause problems such as the way I dress my little girl. My mother-in-law might not like it for instance," she says.

Like many other young couples, Loulousa and her husband Hassan got married after a love story and their families approval. Girls falling in love was unheard of forty or fifty years ago.

Traces

"When parents felt their daughter liked a young man or even mentioned him often, they got her married to another one," says Fadel Khalaf, a Kuwaiti writer in his sixties.

"My daughter, who is a doctor, came to me and told me that she is in love with her colleague at the university. There is nothing wrong with that. But my sister could have never said anything of that sort to my father, for instance," adds Khalaf.

But Khalaf believes that Kuwaiti society still has "traces of the past." "Although girls can drive and go to the university, some of them are still being pushed into marriages they don't want," he says explaining that change takes a very long time to occur even in Western societies.

Khalaf remembers his unpleasant experience of moving out of his father's house after he was married more than forty years ago. His parents were heartbroken. "It was like declaring some kind of a war, but I was determined to gain freedom for myself, my wife and my children," he says.

But not everybody wanted to fight the prevailing system at the time, especially women who took it for granted because it was all they knew. Umm Walid Al Buaijan, who is in her late fifties today, remembers when the oldest member of the house, male and female, had the final say in everything that has to do with the house and its occupants of all generations.

## Obedience

"Orders of Abu Al Bei (father of the house) or Umm Al Bei (mother of the house) were obeyed without any questions. Even a married son could not move a thing from one place to the other without consulting his father," she remembers.

Although Umm Walid accepts the change that has occurred in

the make-up of the Kuwaiti family, she often misses that closeness that was lost in the process. She would understand if her son wanted to live in a place of his own with his wife when he gets married, but deep inside, she would want them to stay with her in the same house.

Sheikha Al Zahem would not agree. She believes that children having their own houses is a cause for better relationships in families. "When a number of families live in one house, they fight more. But when they have separate living space they become more relaxed. In one house, your business becomes everybody's business and you lose your privacy," she says.

## Real Change

"Although most Kuwaiti families don't live in what we used to call the family house anymore, our feeling of belonging to the one big family is still very strong. I know that my six brothers and four sisters and their families are going to be there for me when I need them and vice versa," Zahem explains.

"When I am having something for lunch I know my brother likes, I cannot but send him some with the driver. I cannot enjoy life without my family. I exist through them."

Zahem, one of five teen-ager girls who set fire to their abayas (traditional black head-to-toe cover) in front of their school in 1956, believes that the change in the Kuwaiti family was brought by a boom in education rather than a boom in economy.

"When girls started to go to school in 1938, they started to open up to the world and know

that a lot of things needed to be changed," she says remembering how her father chased her all over the neighbourhood after she burnt her abaya.

But Hamad Al Suaidan, author of the Kuwaiti Encyclopedia, believes that real change occurred in the early fifties when oil returns were distributed to the people. "When the government started buying old houses in the city to open new roads, and when building houses outside the Sour (the old city wall) was permitted, Kuwaitis became more financially able to build their new houses," he says adding that the government's policy of providing Kuwaitis with plots and loans to build houses also contributed to the expansion of the city.

"Also when young Kuwaitis went to school and got jobs with the government, they became financially independent. Their leaving the 'big house' was one way of expressing their needs for independence," Suaidan explains.

But the new family set-up is not problem free. The Kuwaiti family today in its transformational shape still has a number of difficulties that need to be dealt with. Among them is over-dependence on hired help in the home.

"We don't seem to be able to do without servants today. In the old days all women in a house helped to get things done," says Suaidan.

It might seem that this dependency is partly caused by women working outside the home. But Dr. Najat Al Mutawa, assistant vice-rector for information at Kuwait University, believes that a woman could have a job and give enough attention to her family at the same time, of course depending on the type of her work, how understanding and helpful her husband is and the ages of her children.

Mutawa believes that the Kuwaiti family today suffers from what she called the "absence of the family." She explains that although a mother might be in the house for most of the day, she would not spend enough time with her children leaving them to the maid.

"I have maids and I work. But my relationship with my children is excellent because I make an effort to spend time with them, ask about their school work, answer their questions," she asserts.

Divorce

Spinsterhood is another problem. It is usually attributed to high dowries and the increase in the number of Kuwaiti men marrying non-Kuwaitis.

"A frightening thing that was not characteristic of the old Kuwaiti family is the tendency of these families to imitate one another in their lifestyles regardless of their income," says Suaidan.

Also, divorce which used to be a shameful blow to the whole family because marriage was considered a bond between these families, is more common and more accepted now especially since women today do not totally depend on the men-folk of their families for livelihood.

But whatever the extent of change and the types of problems that might sound like those faced by families in the West, Mutawa does not believe that the Kuwaiti family today is heading in the direction of becoming a Westernised nuclear family.

"We refuse the European style of life when it comes to relationships with the family. We will never agree to our daughters leaving the house and living on their own when she becomes seventeen for instance. Care for the elderly will remain one of the family functions, unlike in the West," Mutawa states.

## Caught red-handed

Detectives of Criminal Intelligence Department (CID) apprehended a gang on the charge of smuggling drugs into the country for trafficking purposes, the Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Interior reported.

The culprits identified as Lual A. Iraqi, Hamad B. Kuwaiti, Abdullah B. Kuwaiti, Hussain S. Egyptian, Hamad A. Kuwaiti, and Abdullah A. Kuwaiti, were caught red-handed in possession of about 40 packets of hashish, 8,710 drug pills, two machineguns with 169 bullets, four pistols with 127 bullets in addition to three cartons of whisky, the department said.

It added that the contraband along with the defendants were referred to the competent authority for further investigations.

## 'Half-timers'

# Oman government servants slammed

MUSCAT, May 28. (AP): Oman's Civil Service Minister Ahmed Macki slammed the sultanate's "half-time civil servants" in the state press yesterday.

Research showed the government's 64,000 employees wasted nearly 50 per cent of their working hours on arriving late, leaving early, doing personal errands, visiting other offices, chatting on the telephone or going out because they were "fed up," the English Daily Observer reported.

According to "startling statistics" showing widespread unproductivity, the paper reported that civil servants each worked an average 648 hours annually instead of the stipulated 1,414.

Macki was quoted as saying it was time civil servants realised the harm they were doing to the national economy and warned that salary cuts for absenteeism would be imposed more strictly.

He said the government had reduced the official working week from six to five days — last July — to give civil servants time to attend to their own affairs. "It has far from eliminated time wasting," he said.

Difficulty

Oil-producing Oman, the second largest country in the Arabian peninsula in terms of size, has an estimated 1.5 million population including desert nomads and mountain tribesmen, and employs around 300,000 foreign workers, mostly from the underdeveloped nations.

Macki said it was difficult to fire government employees because of protective civil service legislation.

"One of my worries is that the evaluation reports of government employees are done to please rather than being realistic. And if they are false it is negatively reflected in productivity. I trust that the evaluators will use their consciences and will be honest," he said.

The absenteeism figures were revealed following a two-year "punctuality, attendance and productivity" research study initiated by the Muscat-based Institute of Public Administration.

## Road problems being addressed

THE Director of Research and Laboratories at the Ministry of Public Works, Zaid Abdul Latif was quoted as saying that the roads research centre affiliated to the department has carried out several consulting studies for different governmental authorities, including the Public Ports Authority (PPA), Director General for Civil Aviation (DGCA) and the Ministry of Defence.

These studies are intended to address the problems related to the paving of roads, the official said. He added that the department had

recently adopted a scheme aimed at utilising value added materials designed to improve bitumen quality. The scheme further aims at conducting a study of Kuwaiti soil in addition to the review of the general specifications concerning road projects at the Ministry of Public Works.

The official said that his department has designed an asphaltic mixture which is intended to resist the adverse climatic factors that generally affect road pavements.

# Municipality may collect service fees

By Jamal Ameen

THE council of ministers has reportedly agreed to revise the last clause under article 24 of law No 15 issued in 1972 regarding the Municipal Affairs Committee, which regulates the functions and areas of competence of the committee.

The revision has stipulated that the committee could impose duties on the use of public facilities run by the committee, and that it has the right to set up the needed fee-collecting system and lay down all required measures on delayed payment.

Meanwhile, the Municipal Affairs Committee has agreed to allocate three sites for the mobile telephone communications system, one in Shaah, the other in Abdullah Salem district and the third in Adailiya.

It also agreed to the names given to the Jahra project, while the council of ministers refused to approve one decision for the use of certain street numbering systems on the condition that the related study be reconsidered.







## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

BEWARE the fury of a patient man — John Dryden, English poet (1631-1700).

# Heading for summit Gorby leaves turmoil behind

MOSCOW, May 28, (Reuters): President Mikhail Gorbachev will escape from a pile of trouble at home when he flies to this week's Washington summit with American President George Bush to clinch some foreign policy and disarmament gains.

Indeed his second summit with Bush may be a welcome break from battling serious challenges to his leadership, including a call for a no-confidence vote in his government, turmoil in the restive Soviet republics and social unrest on his own doorstep.

"I'm sure he is looking forward to this summit so he can see some people cheering him, some people who like him," a Western diplomat said, referring to Gorbachev's popularity in the West.

"He needs the pictures of the friendly crowds around him. Every politician can use that, but Gorbachev especially right now," another diplomat said.

## Critic

Gorbachev's fiercest domestic critic, populist politician Boris Yeltsin, made a strong showing at the weekend in an inconclusive race for president of the Russian federation, the largest of the 15 Soviet republics.

Gorbachev leaves today for Canada and the United States. Moscow is in chaos with hundreds of thousands of citizens rushing to the shops in a wave of panic buying to beat big price rises likely to result from a planned switch to a market economy outlined by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov last Thursday.

An opinion poll in the weekly Moscow News said Gorbachev's perestroika reforms had run into a "credibility crisis," with 62 per cent of Soviet citizens expecting mounting difficulties.

Gorbachev on Sunday compared the magnitude of changes under way in the Soviet Union with the 1917 Russian Revolution and predicted major economic upheavals in the years ahead.

In the rebellious Baltics, Lithuania has refused to bite at an offer of independence within three years if it suspends its present unilateral declaration of independence.

Fresh trouble flared on Sunday in the republic of Armenia, where six Armenians were shot dead in clashes with Interior Ministry troops.

## Offset

But gains abroad, such as a new deal on nuclear weapons and the narrowing of differences with the West on the future of a united Germany, could offset the turmoil back home, analysts said.

Gorbachev's big goal at the four-day Washington summit which starts on Wednesday is to ensure that he and Bush sign an agreement on an accord to limit strategic nuclear arms (Start).

"He needs to be able to come home and say, 'We don't need to build any more rockets, we can use the money to help our industry and agriculture,'" the Western diplomat said.

An agreement in principle on Start, the main points of which were agreed during a Moscow visit by Secretary of State James Baker last week, is expected to be the summit's centrepiece.

Bush and Gorbachev are also to sign an accord on halting chemical weapons production and several lesser agreements, ranging from nuclear testing to joint oceanic research and the establishment of a joint cultural centre.

But if the superpowers are finding ever more room for agreement, there are major differences between them on Lithuania and the future military status of a united Germany.

Gorbachev bristled on both issues at a news conference with French President Francois Mitterrand on Friday, saying Lithuania was an internal affair and that those who urged Germany to be a full Nato member were "sowing discord and distrust" in Europe.

Some Soviet officials hope the Americans will not push Gorbachev on either issue, saying that his room for manoeuvre is limited by conservatives at home angry with the separatist Baltic republics and alarmed by the prospect of Germany in Nato.

"The American leadership must be clearly aware that in the USSR questions of foreign policy are becoming an object of inner political struggle," wrote political scientist Andrei Kortunov in the weekly Moscow News.

"The US administration's growing pressure on Gorbachev can strengthen the conservatives in the USSR."

Gorbachev himself has warned that neither superpower should try to profit from the other's domestic woes.

"Neither of us should succumb to the temptation, when things get complicated either in America or in the Soviet Union, to rub our hands with glee or fish in troubled waters," he told the US-Soviet Trade Council last Wednesday.

With speculation rampant at home and abroad that Gorbachev is under increased pressure from the military to reverse his reforms, he gave no direct answer on Friday when a reporter asked whether he could lose his job in a military coup.

But he said the military had the same influence on his policies that the American military had on the White House — in other words, a considerable amount.

A veteran of five meetings with former US president Ronald Reagan and the Malta summit with Bush, Gorbachev has indicated that he is more interested than ever in better ties with the United States, saying that summits should be held every year.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1453 — Constantinople, capital of Byzantine Empire, is captured by Turks — some historians list date as end of Middle Ages.
- 1660 — George Rakoczy, prince of Transylvania, dies in battle with Turks.
- 1692 — British fleet defeats French Navy at La Hogue, ending attempted invasion of England.
- 1765 — Peter II, grandson of Peter I and son of Alexis, becomes tsar of Russia.
- 1807 — Turkey's Sultan Selim III is deposed by Mustapha IV.
- 1923 — Palestine constitution is suspended by British because Arabs refuse to co-operate.
- 1943 — Americans defeat Japanese in battle of Attu in Aleutian Islands in World War II.
- 1947 — Constituent assembly in India outlaws "untouchability".
- 1953 — Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and Tensing Norkay of Nepal become first climbers to reach top of Mount Everest, world's highest mountain.
- 1954 — Thailand complains to United Nations that communists in Indo-China threaten her security.
- 1966 — Buddhist nun burns herself to death outside pagoda in South Vietnamese city of Hue in protest against country's military government.
- 1972 — US president Richard Nixon and Soviet Communist Party secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev sign declaration pledging peaceful co-existence between United States and Soviet Union.
- 1978 — China's foreign minister Huang Hua charges at United Nations that Soviet Union is the most dangerous source of new world war.
- 1984 — Sikh terrorists kill seven people in new wave of hit-and-run attacks in India's troubled Punjab state.
- 1985 — Thirty-eight people are killed and 375 others injured at a Brussels stadium in riots before a European Cup soccer match.
- 1989 — Japanese court rules that doctors are not required to tell patients they may have cancer.

# Crackdown costs China

## Spectre of Tiananmen Square lingers

### Where are they

BEIJING, (AP): Here are brief profiles of leaders of the Chinese pro-democracy movement crushed a year ago.

#### In exile

■ **Wu'er Kaixi, 22** — A freshman education major at Beijing Normal University who grabbed a megaphone during one of the first sit-down protests and persuaded the crowd to hold its ground against police. He became one of the movement's most prominent leaders and boldly challenged Premier Li Peng during a televised meeting. Wu'er went into hiding June 4, 1989, and turned up in Hong Kong three weeks later. He now lives in the United States.

■ **Chai Ling, 24** — Sometimes called La Pasionaria of Tiananmen Square for her emotional, tearful speeches. She was a graduate psychology student at Beijing Normal University and emerged as a spokeswoman early in the pro-democracy movement. Some other students said she was too unstable and fond of notoriety. She was among the 21 most-wanted students after the June 4 army attack. After months in hiding, Chai and her husband, Feng Congde, also on the wanted list, arrived in Paris in April. She has been nominated for the 1990 Nobel peace prize.

■ **Wang Dan, 21** — Sophomore history student at Beijing University arrested in July 1989 after being named the most-wanted student leader in China. He became prominent on campus in 1988 by organising unofficial lectures. Guest speakers included physicist and political dissident Fang Lizhi, whom Wang greatly admired. Later, he helped lead the spring marches. Wang's parents, both Beijing intellectuals, were allowed to visit him in prison in January. He has not been charged.

■ **Lin Gang, 29** — No. 3 on the government list of most-wanted protest leaders after Wang Dan and Wu'er Kaixi. Liu took part in the 1986-87 student marches for democracy while a graduate physics student at Beijing University. When last year's movement began, he was working at a research institute and joined the students. On June 19, state television announced his arrest in Boading, south of Beijing, where he was posing as a worker. There has been no word of him since.

■ **Chen Xiaoping, 29** — A teacher at the Politics and Law University in Beijing, who was arrested last summer. Friends say Chen was a Communist Party member who believed the system could be reformed from within. His first act of protest came as a graduate student at Beijing University in 1985, when he criticised officials for banning a student pro-democracy demonstration in Tiananmen Square. Last spring, he helped organise Beijing citizens behind



Wu'er Kaixi

the latest protest. A recent unconfirmed report said he was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

■ **Ren Wanding, 45** — Arrested at home June 10. An accountant with thick glasses and an intense manner, Ren took part in the 1978-79 democracy movement, which also was put down by senior leader Deng Xiaoping. He spent four years in jail. In November 1988, Ren began writing essays commemorating the earlier movement and calling for democratic change. When students began marching in the spring of 1989, he made speeches on campuses and at Tiananmen Square. He was charged in March with counter-revolutionary incitement, but there has been no word of a trial. His sentence could range from five years in prison to death.



Wang Dan

■ **Lin Xiaobo, 34** — A lecturer in Chinese literature at Beijing Normal, arrested the first week of June 1989 while bicycling from a friend's home. He was an outspoken critic of what he considered repressive aspects of traditional culture. When the protests began, he returned from the United States, where he was to teach at Columbia University and joined in. He and three friends began a hunger strike June 21 in support of the students. When soldiers reached Tiananmen Square the morning of June 4, the four negotiated a peaceful retreat for the students. His wife and in-laws visited Liu at Qincheng prison in January. He has not been charged.

■ **Zhang Zhiyong, about 24** — A graduate student in international relations at Beijing University, arrested in July in Nanjing. He was one of the three students who knelt for hours on the steps of the Great Hall of the People on April 22, 1989. They sought to deliver a

student petition to China's top leaders, who were at a funeral service inside for former Communist Party chief Hu Yaobang. Friends said Zhang was optimistic to the end that the party would grant democratic reforms. He favoured compromise rather than confrontation, a course other students rejected. Sources say he shares a cell with several other students. He has not been allowed visitors, but was permitted to write his family a letter.

■ **Zhang Weiping** — A senior at the Zhejiang Fine Arts Institute in Hangzhou, sentenced in August to nine years in prison for having told the Voice of America that Hangzhou students forced local authorities to fly the flag at half-mast in honour of protesters slain June 3-4 in Beijing. The report was not true and Zhang was accused of spreading counter-revolutionary propaganda.

■ **Deng Xiaoping** — 85, China's paramount leader has resigned in the past year from his last two official posts as head of the party and government military commissions. He rarely makes public appearances. Chinese sources say he has cancer and there are frequent rumours he is seriously ill or dead. The man who brought economic reform to China a decade ago still is regarded as its most powerful politician.

■ **President Yang Shangkun** said recently that national leaders "are meeting him very often in various places." Deng approved the orders to send troops into Beijing in June 1989, but also is believed to be a voice of moderation in preventing persecution of ousted Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang, his former protégé, and seeking better relations with West.

■ **Li Peng** — 61, the conservative premier, widely disliked for his refusal to compromise with the students and his decision to impose martial law in Beijing. There was speculation earlier this year that party leaders would appoint public opinion by easing the adopted son of the late premier Chou En-Lai into a less important post. Li has shown growing confidence, however, and if the economy recovers from the slump caused by austerity measures Li introduced in 1988, his chances of serving until the end of his five-year term in 1993 appear good.

■ **President Yang Shangkun** — 82, a former general who joined Li in ordering the bloody military suppression of the democracy movement. Yang, an old friend and ally of Deng, is far more active and vigorous than Deng and appears to be manoeuvring to become the next "paramount leader." His main source of power is the military. He is first vice-chairman of the policy-making central Military



Chai Ling

Commission and has had his younger brother, Yang Baibing, the army's top political commissar, installed as its general secretary.

■ **Zhao Ziyang** — 70, purged as Communist Party chief June 24, 1989, after being accused of supporting the turmoil and trying to split the party. He has not been seen in public since a tearful meeting with student hunger strikers May 19, 1989, in Tiananmen Square. Zhao is under virtual house arrest. Zhao is said to have refused to confess any wrong doing, and the party has not carried through on threats of criminal charges. Zhao remains a party member and still has considerable support among people who favour his policies of



Liu Gang

rapid economic reform.

■ **Hu Qili** — 60, sided with Zhao in calling for negotiations with the students. He, too, was removed from the five-member Politburo standing committee on June 24 and removed from all party posts. Hu, a protégé of the late party chief Hu Yaobang, has disappeared from public view, "but did attend the annual session this spring of the national legislature. Depictions surrounded Hu, asking for his autograph and posing for pictures with him.

■ **Jiang Zemin** — 63, former mayor and Communist Party chief of Shanghai, was Deng's surprise choice to succeed Zhao as head of the National Party and become the "core" of China's next-generation leadership. Jiang's power base in Beijing is weak and he is seen by some as an interim leader. So far, he was carefully followed the party's current conservative ideological stance, a caution warranted by the purge of his two predecessors. Zhao and Hu Yaobang for violating party discipline.

# People still under lock

BEIJING, (AP): Ren Wanding, a veteran of Chinese jails, was mentally prepared for arrest several weeks before police arrived at his apartment door last June 10.

Even before soldiers and tanks rolled into central Beijing on June 3 to end popular protests for democracy, Ren's name had been raised in private official meetings as one of the "very few counter-revolutionaries" who eventually would be blamed for the whole movement.

Friends alerted him, but Ren said May 27, after a last meeting with foreign journalists, that he wasn't running.

"This is my freedom of speech," said the skinny, bespectacled accountant, who for six months had been writing and distributing essays calling for human rights and the rule of law.

"I must speak. It is my fate to do these things."

Nine months after his arrest, Ren, now 45, was charged with counter-revolutionary incitement. With his prison record, four years served for participating in a 1978 democracy movement, he is likely to get more than the minimum five years.

"I keep having this vision, that Ren comes home and I'm not there and he can't get in," his wife, Zhang Fengying, said soon after his arrest.

#### Reports

Now, with the hope of an early release gone, friends say she has become deeply depressed. She has not been allowed to see him, only to deliver clothes and books.

Ren is believed held in Qincheng prison, western Beijing, where many of last year's protesters were sent, but it has not been confirmed. There have been no reports on his condition, but before his arrest Ren predicted he would manage.

"I'm experienced," he said.

A little more is known about the fate of

Wang Dan, a Beijing university sophomore who was at the forefront of many marches and was arrested in July.

Reports from others jailed with him and later released, and from friends who received a postcard from jail, indicate he has enough to eat but little exercise, and is allowed to read newspapers and approved books.

His parents, Beijing intellectuals, were allowed to visit in January, a rare exception to the usual rule of no visits before sentencing.

Some experts say Wang has shown what authorities call "a good attitude" and may be released, but two large prisoner releases — 573 people last winter and 211 in May — did not include him.

Just before martial law was declared in May 1989, Wang, then 20, was impatient when asked if he feared arrest.

Didn't he remember Wei Jingsheng, another youth who led a democracy movement and has been in jail for 11 years?

"How can we worry about one person's safety?" Wang replied, standing in his dormitory hall with a dinner bowl in his hand.

"Besides, I'm too busy. What can we do, anyway? If they want to arrest us, they will."

Gao Xin, a hunger striker released from prison in December, believes his friend and fellow striker, Liu Xiaobo, also will be freed.

"It's as if the government is sitting sand," said Gao, who used to edit a university newspaper but has been unemployed since his release. "The little pieces will fall through the sieve — I fell out early — and only the big one will be charged."

He acknowledged that Liu, a teacher of Chinese literature with a passion for politics, might be a "big piece." Liu returned from New York, where he planned to lecture at Columbia University, to take part in the spring democracy movement.

Official media have singled him out frequently. The government even compiled a

slim paperback volume of criticism of the "crazy turmoil inciter."

#### Allowed

Liu, 34, has not been charged with anything so far, even though he has been held since early June. His wife and in-laws were allowed to visit him in January at Qincheng prison — a good sign, Gao said — and found he had put on weight from lack of exercise.

He is allowed to read books sent from home. Reports are that he, like most of the other intellectuals, receives better treatment from guards than common criminals and is not physically abused.

Despite the releases, arrests continue. Chinese sources said police went to the home of a college teacher last month and told him to come for a walk. He never returned.

A few dissidents still write political tracts and plant them cautiously in bicycle racks and public places, but they meet only in very small groups of trusted friends and have no immediate plans for protests or acts of sabotage.

Some would-be activists make pilgrimages to Beijing, seeking leadership. Recently, a 20-year-old worker got off a train from the south and began looking for "an armed rebel group," without success. None is known to exist.

"In our country, there aren't many people willing to sacrifice themselves," he said disconsolately. "I am willing."

Sacrifice is more prosaic for the wife of one jailed protester. Without his income, she faces financial difficulty. She has had to send their child to her parents and fears losing their apartment.

She said she is willing to deal with those problems because, "while he is in jail, I should sacrifice."

When he comes out, she said, "I'll dance up a storm."

There is one thing investors don't like it uncertainty.

In Hong Kong, uncertainty about the future has led to a flight of talent. About 1,000 people, mainly professionals, emigrate

every week from the British colony, which reverts to Chinese rule in 1997.

The desire to escape is pervasive among the educated young in China, but few can do it.

# Finland in no haste to change Soviet ties

HELSINKI, (Reuters): Like its Baltic neighbours, Finland is re-examining relations with the Soviet Union, but with the caution born of experience.

While Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania clamour for the independence they lost in 1940, Finland is in no hurry to alter the course it has followed since World War II.

"We must distinguish between visions and practical politics," said Aarno Karhilo, under-secretary of state for political affairs, in an interview with Reuters.

Some Finnish politicians and researchers have suggested that Finland's 1948 treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance with the Soviet Union has outlived its usefulness and should be revised.

"The treaty has functioned well. Raising the question of its future is natural, but the government believes no change is needed at present," Karhilo said.

The pact has been renewed three times and is now valid until the year 2003. Its military clauses bind Finland, with Soviet help, to repel any attack by Germany.

This pact, and the cession of the Finnish Karelia to the Soviet Union, have been in the past been cited in Western capitals as evidence of Helsinki's alleged political subservience to Moscow, the so-called 'Finlandisation' effect.

"We have noted to our regret that this term is used, and we feel it is an unfair view of Finnish policy," Karhilo said.

As far as Finland was concerned, "we feel we have a stable relationship, a modus vivendi, with the Soviet Union," he added.

Karhilo emphasised that Finnish foreign policy was decided by a democratically elected Finnish government. "It is one we have chosen ourselves," he said.

Finnish and other Nordic newspapers have recently criticised Helsinki's attitude towards the three Baltic republics striving for autonomy as half-hearted.

Norwegian and Danish editorials last month said Finland had blocked a joint Nordic declaration in favour of Lithuania at a meeting of foreign ministers in Copenhagen.

At home, the conservative evening daily, Ilta-lehti said the incident was a good example of Finlandisation. Lappeenranta, a newspaper in the Lappeenranta region, said Finnish policy towards Lithuania was understood neither at home nor abroad.

Timo Vahvainen, secretary of a Russian studies programme at Helsinki University, said that Finns had been forced throughout history to accommodate a powerful neighbour.

"This Finland's paradox that in order to develop relations with the West, we must have some trust and security to the east," he said.

President Mauno Koivisto recalled earlier this month that Finland had been widely predicted to share the same fate as the three Baltic republics, which were incorporated by the Soviet Union in 1940.

"But we want another road," he said. "This road led first through great difficulties and sacrifices but later to a stable relationship with our neighbouring great power. The Soviet Union has become a good neighbour."

Finland as a defeated nation ceded Karelia to the Soviet Union, and signed the 1947 Paris peace treaty restricting its armed forces and their deployment.

Koivisto has rejected demands by the Karelia Association for talks on the recovery of the province, and ruled out any change to the Soviet treaty.

But former prime minister Kalevi Sorsa, tipped as the front-runner to succeed Koivisto as president in 1994, has said he could contemplate changes in the 1948 treaty.

Dr Risto Penttila, a researcher at the Finnish Institute of International Affairs, caused a stir recently when he presented a thesis on Finnish neutrality concluding that the Soviet treaty needed updating.

"It should be revised to spell out Finland's neutrality, the co-operation and timing of military reference to Germany," Penttila told a reporter.

Two Russian cruise liners riding at anchor in Helsinki harbour, and the onion dome of Orthodox Uspensky cathedral remind the visitor of Finland's cultural ties with its Eastern neighbour.

But Finnish pride at defending its independence against the Soviet Red Army was reflected in the film "The Winter War," a fiction version of the 1939-40 campaign which played to packed houses in Finnish cinema last winter.



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Experts to meet

### Non-Opec to review oil market

DUBAI, May 28. (Reuters): Senior oil officials of independent petroleum exporting countries (Opec), or non-Opec as they are known, will meet in Moscow on May 31 for two days to review the oil market, Gulf oil officials said.

The meeting's agenda is very flexible, the experts will discuss the short-term market trends after Opec's recent pact, and look into ways of co-operation with Opec, an official said.

The Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said today Opec (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) president Sadek Boussena had sent a letter to non-Opec oil ministers on May 18 asking them to co-operate with Opec's market stabilisation efforts by exercising production restraint.

MEES quoted Boussena urging non-Opec oil ministers in the letter "to do your utmost to ensure that your esteemed countries join forces with us and exercise restraint on the production level so as to contribute to the improvement of the overall supply picture in order to help prices to recover to a less harmful level as soon as possible."

The experts have no power to decide on output cuts to help Opec's efforts to mop up supplies from the market, but could make recommendations to their oil ministers on their findings, a Gulf oil official said.

Six non-Opec countries had agreed to cut around 300,000 barrels per day (bpd) of oil exports in the second quarter of 1989 to support Opec.

Oman, the de facto leader of the group, would present a study on the short-term outlook of the market after Opec countries have decided earlier this month to trim the group's output to help sagging oil prices due to excess output.

However oil prices continued to decline, after a brief surge following Opec's pact in Geneva, as oil markets were suspicious of Opec member states intention to abide by it.

Crude oil prices are currently around \$14.00 per barrel for the Middle East benchmark crude, Dubai, some \$5 below the early January levels.

### Iran may join stock market federation

NICOSIA, Cyprus, May 28. (AP): Iran may join the international stock market federation, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported today.

The official agency monitored in Nicosia, said Iran's possible membership in the international body was discussed yesterday at a meeting of the stock exchange council in Tehran.

The session was presided over by Mohammad Hussein Adeli, director of Iran's Central Bank, Iran said.

It quoted Adeli as saying that private brokers would be admitted to the state-run stock exchange.

The Iranian Stock Exchange, which lay dormant for 11 years after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, was revived by President Hashemi Rafsanjani's government last year.

Rafsanjani has declined radical advocates of tighter state control of the economy and is trying to introduce a more laissez faire system.

Revival of the stock exchange is one of his government's key projects to attract private funds to revitalise Iran's moribund economy.

### Contract awarded

LAGOS, May 28. (Opecna): Nigeria has awarded an \$800 million contract to five foreign firms for engineering, procurement and construction work on the second phase of an expansion scheme at the Eleme Petrochemical Complex, near Port Harcourt.

Petroleum Resources Minister Prof Jibril Aminu made the announcement here Saturday during a ceremony marking the award to the Chiyoda Corporation, the JGC Corporation, the Kobe Steel Company of Japan, Teichmont Spa of Italy and Spibatignoles of France.

The selected contractors are reputable international contractors, who have proven experience in executing projects of this magnitude all over the world, he said, adding that having also completed large-scale projects in Nigeria "they are, therefore, quite familiar with local conditions."

## World Bank directors meet

# Japan impatient to resume China loans

TOKYO, May 28. (Reuters): World Bank directors meet tomorrow to discuss whether to grant new loans to China, and Japan's government and bankers are hanging on their decision.

Tokyo sees the World Bank as the bellwether for progress on ending economic sanctions against Beijing, imposed after it sent in troops against student-led protesters last year on the night of June 3 and 4.

The West and Japan, shocked by the crackdown, which left hundreds, perhaps thousands, dead, suspended official credits. The World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and many

commercial banks following suit. The freeze obliged the Chinese to postpone dozens of capital projects such as power stations, railway lines and fertilizer plants vital needed to ease worsening economic bottlenecks.

"Last June, nobody expected the suspension to last more than a few months," said one Japanese banker. "But now there is no clear timetable for resumption. The situation has become more complicated than anyone imagined."

Prior to June 4, China was a borrower favoured by foreign banks and governments, with a low per capita

foreign debt, a faultless repayment record and a nation-wide system able to absorb large amounts of aid money.

But the crackdown and the West's strong reaction made commercial banks nervous about the regime's stability, its commitment to economic reform and the possibility of large-scale unrest.

Beijing has sought to address these concerns by repeated assurances that its reform and open-door policy will not change, by strong measures to prevent unrest and by tight curbs on imports to prevent its foreign debt spiralling out of control.

But it is political, rather than economic, factors that have stalled resumption of the loans. Most important have been the sharp differences between Beijing and the US Congress.

Strong criticism in Congress of Beijing's human-rights record has prevented President George Bush from resuming normal economic ties, including loans from the World Bank, which has made only two new loans to China, for humanitarian purposes.

Another irritant is the continuing presence in the US embassy of dissident physicist Fang Lizhi, who fled there after the crackdown and seems to have

no prospect of leaving China. For its part, Beijing says it has made gestures to improve relations with the West, lifting martial law in Beijing and Lhasa, Tibet, freeing nearly 800 people detained after the crackdown and resuming scholarly exchanges with the United States.

But it has not been enough. A Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman said earlier this month it was too early to say if a decision to resume loans could be taken at the Houston summit meeting of leaders of the seven major industrial democracies in July.

"What is important is the progress of

mutual efforts (by China and the West), not necessarily the summit," he said.

Debate over resuming the loans has been fiercest in Japan, whose banks have lent more to China than those of any other country and whose official aid is by far the highest.

Promised cheap loans to Beijing totalling 810 billion yen (\$5.6 billion) for the 1990-94 period remain frozen.

The banking and business community is urging the government to resume the loans, because without them Chinese purchases of Japanese goods have been badly hit.

## Stock market boost

# Share offered

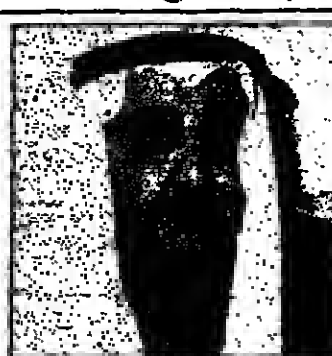
## Govt move to strengthen private sector

THE government will soon start selling its shareholdings in some companies to the private sector, Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi announced. In a statement to Kuna, the minister said that the selling of the government shares in about 13 companies comes in line with the recommendations of the government-sponsored economic revival report issued late last year.

Khorafi added that the measure which will be entered in the coming few days, will be carried out by the government local investments body, the Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA).

All the 13 companies in which the government will sell its shares, are either closed or unlisted in the stock market. The minister said that this is primarily aimed at not influencing the levels of trading at the stock market. Besides, the selling of a limited quantity of government shares would enable the private sector to absorb them, Khorafi stressed.

The sale process will be carried



Jassem Al Khorafi

out on the basis of secret biddings through closed offers by investors willing to buy. Details of buying will be made public by the Kuwait Stock Market, Khorafi said.

The minister emphasised that the government shareholdings in the listed companies at the stock market won't be offered for sale unless consultations with concerned parties are completed. In all cases, any decision taken will make sure not to adversely influence trading in the market. He added that all investors will

be informed of the government programme its duration and the quantity of shares offered for sale from the listed companies.

Khorafi said that necessary measures have been taken in co-operation with the Kuwait Stock Market for the return of the Securities Group Co., and the Securities House Co., as market makers in the secondary market in a bid to activate this market. An announcement from the stock market will be made soon to this effect.

Khorafi added that the government hopes from this step to expand the contributions and activities of the private sector in the country's economic life and also improve trading at the Kuwait Stock Market.

The companies from which the government would sell its shares include: United Agricultural Production Co., Financial Position Co., Ahlia Investments Co., Rawdatin Water Bottling Co., Paper Trading and Manufacturing Co., Salsiya Real Estate Co., Gulf Glass Industries Co. and six financial brokers companies.

## Gold firm

# Dollar mixed in thin trade

LONDON, May 28. (AP): The dollar finished mixed in exceptionally quiet European trading today, affected by the Memorial Day weekend in the United States and a bank holiday in Britain.

Gold rose in Zurich, but was not traded in London or Tokyo, where today was the Dragon Festival holiday.

In Frankfurt, the market continued to watch events in the Soviet Union and the progress toward German reunification with great interest, but in the absence of news, there was little inspiration for trading.

"One can't even call it technical trading," said a trader at a US bank in Frankfurt.

"With New York and London absent nobody in the Forex market is going to take big risks," said another trader, at a West German bank.

A Milan, Italy, trader agreed: "The dollar is

looking fairly stable, with tendency to firm, but I don't expect much movement due to the holidays in London and New York. The market is pretty dead."

In Tokyo, the dollar fell below 150 yen for the first time in nearly three months, closing down 0.60 yen to a closing 149.45 yen. Later, in Europe it was quoted lower at 149.39 yen.

Other late dollar rates in Europe, compared with late Friday:

- 1.6790 West German marks, down from 1.6810
- 1.4215 Swiss francs, down from 1.4245
- 5.6565 French francs, down from 5.6585
- 1.8910 Dutch guilders, up from 1.8820
- 1.2330 Italian lire, down from 1.234.15
- 1.1828 Canadian dollars, down from 1.1837

On the European continent, the British pound was quoted at \$1.6930, more expensive for buyers than late Friday's 1.6895 dollars in London.

# AFS declares 5 pc dividend

## Assets growing

A DIVIDEND of five per cent of the \$30,000,000 share capital has been announced by Arab Financial Services (AFS) following its annual general meeting held in Bahrain, 27 May.

This is due to the record profit of \$3,522,130 from 1989 operations reported in February. The 1988 figure was \$1,253,914.

Representatives of the 57 Arab financial institutional shareholders of AFS attended the meeting, among them Arab Banking Corporation, Bahrain, National Commercial Bank, Saudi Arabia, Arab Libyan Foreign Bank, Libya and

Arah Bank for Investment and Foreign Trade, UAE.

"The financial results were most satisfactory for 1989," said AFS Chairman Abdullah A. Saudi in a report presented to the shareholders.

"These positive results reflect the far-sighted policies laid down by the Board of Directors, the efforts of the staff, the support of the shareholders, the co-operation and assistance from the Bahraini authorities particularly the Bahrain Monetary Agency and the Ministry of Commerce & Agriculture."

# Zambia to privatise some shares

LUSAKA, May 28. (Reuters): Zambia unveiled plans today to sell off a minority stake in state-run companies and set up a stock exchange in what was seen as a way to attract more aid from reluctant Western donors.

President Kenneth Kaunda said the public would be offered 40 per cent of shares in public utilities and services and 49 per cent of shares in mining, industrial and commercial enterprises.

"It is a very bold move," said former government

minister and businessman Vernon Mwaanga. "It was about time we moved further and allowed people to have shares in these companies."

Companies to be part-privatised include Zambia Railways, the Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority, national carrier Zambia Airways, the Zambia Electricity Supply Corporation, the University Teaching Hospital and the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation.

# Bundesbank to head E.German operations from former Reichsbank

FRANKFURT, May 28. (Reuters): The West German Bundesbank, taking over East German money on July 1, will run its new job from the austere grey Reichsbank building, the economic headquarters of the German empire until Adolf Hitler's death.

Until the collapse of the communist government in East Germany in free elections in March, the former Reichsbank building in East Berlin was Communist Party headquarters. It now also provides space for the East German parliamentary groups.

Bundesbank board member Johann Wilhelm Gaddum, in charge of the Bundesbank's East German activities, said the size of the Reichsbank's vaults played a role in choice of headquarters.

It has several thousand cubic metres (feet) of storage space spread over three floors.

Gaddum told a news conference the Bundesbank expected to major difficulties in introducing the powerful Deutschmark into East Germany on July 1. "We are not really faced by logistical problems," he said.

He said East Germany would initially need a supply of about 20 to 25 billion marks of cash as the economy switched to the hard West German currency.

The Bundesbank's East German activities will be carried out from the old Reichsbank and 15 branches in East German cities.

After initially being responsible for funneling cash into the economy, the Bundesbank also takes over the reins of day-to-day monetary policy, the role played earlier the East German central bank, or Staatsbank.

The Staatsbank will no longer have a monetary role and its commercial banking

Soviets queue to buy meat sausages at a Moscow 'Gastronom' store yesterday as the announcement last week of major economic reforms and subsequent price rises sparked a spate of panic buying among Soviet housewives. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Moscow to triple bread prices

## Mood seems calmer

MOSCOW, May 28. (AP): Clerks in Moscow stores today barred entry to non-residents in a partially successful effort to stem a wave of panic buying sparked by government plans to triple bread prices on July 1.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev tried to slow the run on stores by making a hastily scheduled appearance on Soviet television last night.

"Don't panic, comrades," Gorbachev told his television audience. The speech was rebroadcast today.

The mood seemed calmer during the morning at grocery stores on Taganskaya and Dorogomilovskaya streets, but the rush resumed elsewhere after lunch.

When food store No. 30 on Gorky street reopened after the midday break, about 70

people rushed in to buy Vietnamese vodka and Nicaraguan rum, nearly overwhelming policemen who were on hand helping check for residency permits.

One shopper at Taganskaya, where liquor was not being sold, said that the panic seemed to be subsiding.

"There was some concern the first day. But this is already the fourth day, and things have calmed down," said one woman who at first was refused entrance to the store on Taganskaya street.

"We told them we were on a trip and needed to get something to eat," said the woman, who was travelling with her husband and grandson. "Of course they let us in."

The woman, who declined to give her name or native city, said that Gorbachev's speech

had a calming effect, "but he really had nothing concrete to offer."

A store clerk who initially refused entrance to the travellers said, "How can you turn away a child? A person must eat." She also declined to give her name and objected when a reporter wrote down her comments.

A small percentage of those trying to enter the store were turned away. Some of those rejected said they simply forgot to carry the residence permits required to live in the city.

Gorbachev, in his speech last night, said that "an anxious mood has arisen in the country in connection with the consideration by the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the government's report on the transition to a market economy."

## Call for public protest

# Pledge to fight reforms

MOSCOW, May 28. (Reuters): A new anti-Communist Party headed by international chess champion Garry Kasparov and a leading parliamentarian has called for public protest against the economic reforms sweeping the Soviet Union.

"We must soften the economic transition or people won't survive," said Kasparov today at the end of the Democratic Party of Russia's first conference.

"We must offer an alternative and mobilise all the democratic forces to avoid the coming catastrophe," Kasparov, who quit the Communist Party and has become an outspoken critic of the Kremlin, said.

"By the end of the year we will need a strong organisation to save the failing system."

The party called for the Soviet miners' union to vote to strike when it meets June 9 in the Ukraine as a protest against the large price increases announced last week by the Kremlin.

Of several parties established since the Communist Party abandoned its monopoly on power in February, none has been as openly anti-communist as the Democratic Party of Russia. During the conference, which began on Saturday and ended this morning, literature denouncing Stalinism and Leninism was distributed. Many speakers called for the government to resign.

## Bombay shares

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs) May 28, '90.	Pr. Cl	Open	Close
ACC	484	494	488.50
Alem Chem	—	—	—
Alum Nis	—	—	—
Art Fab	—	—	—
Ashtok Ley	88	89	88
Asia Paimi	235	237.50	242.50
Atlas Cop	36	36	35
Auto Corp	67	65	67.50
Bajaj Auto	474.7	—	—
Bar Rayon	865	882.50	876.25
Blow Plast	—	—	—
Bom Dye	209	212	224
BK Bond	115	114	116
Burr Wel	76.25	70	75
Canshare	—	—	—
Cen Enka	3700	3730	3750
Cen Spg	3390	3440	3490
Colgate	217.50	217.50	220
Crompt Gr	1100	1075	1100
DCM	25.50	24.50	25.50
Deep Fert	29.50	31	31
Dunlop	62.50	60	62.50
EI Hotels	58	57	58.50
Exorts	96	98	96
BSE Index	—	150	151.25
Essay Sps	37	37.50	38
Food Spl	120	120	121.50
Forbes	49.50	48	50
Gaur Wel	32.75	32.50	33
GL India	104	104	104.50
GNFC	38	39	41
Grasim	128.50	129	131
GE Shpg	48.25	48.75	49.25
GSFC	207.50	207.50	215
Guj Alkl	86.50	87.50	95
Guj Heavy	18	15	16
Hero Honda	22	21	22
Hind Ciba	1390	1420	1430
Hind Lever	120	121	120.50
Hind Cocac	159.50	160	159
Hind Motor	32.50	33	33.25
Hindalco	276.25	285	286.25
Hoechst	2160	2170	2180
Ingersoll	73	74	75
ITC	88.25	89	90
Ind Rayon	108.50	110	110.50
Indrol	235	241.25	237.50
Ray Wool	88	90	92.50
Reckitt	211.25	210	213
Reliance	62.50	64	65.50
Sesa Goa	107	110	112
Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Shree Cem	—	—	—
Shn Fib	53	51	53
Siemens	115	116	116
SKF	1485	1480	1520
Spic	58.50	59	62.50
Si Mills	79	81	83.50
Tata Oil	120	120	120.50
Tata Chem	605	620	602.50
Tata Pow	143	146.50	149
Telco	—	—	—
Thapp Agro	114	115.50	118
Vam Org	147.50	153.75	147.50
Vareli	76	79	78
Volcas	23	24.75	23.50
Wimco	40	40	42
Zenith	63	62	64
Zuari Agro	—	—	—

پاکستان سکول و کالج ازمیشہ کے سابق سرٹشی اور پاکستان  
سنگل ایسوسی ایشن کے سابق نائب صدر جناب  
محمد اویسی صاحب کا اہم دستخط آئی اس جہان فانی سے رحلت  
گئی ہیں واللہ تعالیٰ رحمۃً اعلیٰ کی نازل فرمائے۔  
مؤرخہ ۲۹/۵/۹۰ وقت ۵ بجے بعد عصر  
مقبورہ اترقہ میں ادا کی جائے گی۔  
فرائض اور تدفین کو اپنے بار و رحمت میں جبرائیل - راجیہ







Children mauled: strays roam the streets

# British risk turning from dog lovers to fearers

By Julia Hayley

LONDON, (Reuters): The pit bull Terrier has been howling for hours on a small second floor balcony on a public housing estate in southeast London.

"Sometimes it's out there until two or three o'clock in the morning," says the woman, downstairs, glancing uneasily at the potential killer on her roof.

Attacks by savage dogs such as pit bulls now make headline news in Britain. Rottweilers, a breed virtually unknown two or three years ago, crop up with increasing frequency in newspaper cartoons and bar conversation.

The British risk turning from a nation of dog lovers to one of dog fearers, and with some justification, say those involved in dealing with dangerous and stray dogs.

Many of the calls made by Tim Wass, inspector for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), are to check on large, often fierce dogs shut out on balconies while their owners are at work.

uncontrolled dogs roaming inner city housing estates.

Some 12 years ago pit bull Terriers, whose 2,000 pound per square inch bite can crush a child's skull in an instant, cost around £3,000 (\$5,880), Wass says. Now they go for as little as £30 (\$50).

The dogs are becoming increasingly fashionable in Britain, particularly in the poor inner city areas, both as guard dogs and macho accessories for young men.

They are the centre of an illegal dog fighting network and are popular with drug dealers who sometimes stash their goods under the dog's collar.

Bull Terriers were originally used to herd and bring down bulls, but American pit bull Terriers have been selectively bred for 300 years to do nothing but kill an opponent. They will naturally attack dogs, but can be trained to go for people.

Selected for their fighting skills rather than looks, pit bulls come in many sizes and colours. They are generally large, with narrow eyes and, above all, immensely strong.

Pit Bull News, a restricted circulation magazine for the dog fighting fraternity, carries accounts of weight pulling competitions alongside the fight results. The 1989 champion, Max, won by shifting a load of 2,415 pounds (1,090 kg).

With no dog registration it is impossible to tell how many pit bull Terriers



Stray dogs pose a danger to children

there are in Britain but Wass says the London numbers run into thousands, with densest population in the poor

area of Peckham in the southeast of the city.

And oow that they are so cheap, pit bulls are more likely to be abandoned on the streets — a frightened prospect.

pit bull with only three legs it had been in a car accident put three people in hospital six months ago," said Wass.

A police report, obtained by the producers of a recent television programme on savage dogs, says "statistics can be expected" if there are no curbs on vicious dogs.

RSPCA inspectors and local authority dogcatchers often go out looking for dogs like police in riot gear, carrying shields and long metal poles with nooses on the end known as graspers and wearing padded gauntlets.

"And that's not enough," Wass says.

He is often called to dawn raids on drug dealers if the police know there is a dangerous dog in the house. He can control a 50 pound (22 kg) pit bull a grasper, he says, but does not relish an encounter with a Bandog, a new cross of any of several fierce breeds such as Rottweiler, Rhodesian Ridgeback and Bullmastiff.

Small children are particularly at risk from pit bull Terriers because dogs may mistake them for canine opponents.

Early this month British newspapers carried pictures of a 4-year-old girl who was mauled by an Alsatian and a Rottweiler and needed 200 stitches in her face.

"Had it been a pit bull, she wouldn't be alive," Wass says.

On the day the story appeared parliament threw out a proposal to bring in compulsory dog registration which had the support of government and opposition politicians. The RSPCA has long been campaigning for registration as a means of controlling strays, identifying the owner of a dog and prosecuting those responsible for attacks on people or cruelty to the animals.

Dog licences were abolished two years ago. Priced at 37.5 pence (60 cents), they were not cost effective to administer, a government spokesman said. Nothing has replaced them.

Battersea Dog's Home, a charity which deals with many of London's stray dogs either by finding them new owners or killing them, is running a trial registration scheme and has put electronic identity tags into 3,000 dogs it has re-sold. Bill Wadman-Taylor, manager and resident veterinary surgeon at Battersea, hopes that if the scheme proves successful it will be introduced nationally.

The RSPCA alone kills 1,000 stray dogs a day because there are too many to rehome.

The government opposes registration. "It would be the irresponsible owners that wouldn't take out registration... it would be bureaucratic and the burden would fall on those who complied," said a spokesman for the Department of the Environment.

## More mouths to feed poses famine danger

### Green revolution falters

By Ben Hirscher

WAGENINGEN, Netherlands, (Reuters): High yielding varieties of rice and wheat that have held famine at bay for millions of the world's poor over the past 25 years may no longer be able to do the job.

The so-called "Green Revolution" that introduced tough, grain-laden varieties of paddy rice to the Third World enabled rice yields to double between 1960 and 1987. But scientists say yields have stagnated recently, though the need for high productivity remains as urgent as ever.

"We now have a problem of yields levelling off," said Klaus Lampe, director-general of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), creator of the Green Revolution with its crop development programme.

Yields need to be increased by 10 million tonnes a year just to prevent current levels of malnutrition and hunger worsening, Lampe said.

The IRRI, based in the Philippines, expects world rice demand to rise to 760 million tonnes by 2020 from around 500 million today. It estimates 4.3 billion of the earth's projected population of eight billion in 2020 will be rice consumers.

Crop researchers in the Netherlands for a meeting of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) said increased yields are the only chance of raising food production, because farmers in the developing world are increasingly running up against finite resources of water and soil

nutrients.

"There is little scope to increase the land grains, so if we want to feed the world we will need a three to 3.5 per cent annual increase in wheat yields and a 3.5 to four per cent increase for maize," said Donald Winkelman, director-general at the International Wheat and Maize Research Institute in Mexico.

"You have to be apprehensive whether that can be achieved."

A crescent of nine million hectares (22 million acres) of land that feeds 200 million people across the northern Indian sub-continent is being lost, the problem, Winkelman said.

Farmers in the region grow modern strains of rice in rotation with wheat varieties pioneered at the Mexican Institute. But despite increased fertiliser use, yields are stagnating. Winkelman said the reason is not clear but rising salinity as water levels fall may be one factor.

"There will inevitably be increasing sustainability problems of this sort as pressure on resources increases," he said.

Higher yielding varieties of rice and wheat are now grown on around 115 million hectares (248 million acres) throughout the world, producing 40 million more tonnes of grain each year than could be provided by traditional varieties with the same inputs, scientists said. The increase is enough to feed 500 million people.

However, the intensive cultivation techniques associated with these modern varieties has prompted criticisms that Third World farmers are too reliant on

multinational chemical companies for fertilisers and pesticides. But John Mellor of the Washington-based International Food Policy Research Institute said such intensification is vital to protect the world's most fragile environments.

"A major problem is the rapid conversion of land from perennial crops, such as grasses or trees, to annual crops, like grains," he said.

"Only 10 per cent of the annual destruction of Third World forests is due to logging. The other 90 per cent is due to the incursion of agriculture, mostly by very poor people."

Plant breeders are continuing to search for still higher-yielding varieties. But the quantum leap achieved in the mid-1960s is not expected to be repeated.

Biotechnology should help speed the selection process but it is not a panacea due to the difficulties of inserting foreign genes in grain plants, Winkelman said.

Increasing emphasis is being given to the needs of farmers in semi-arid areas, particularly in Africa where the green revolution has had no impact.

Heat- and disease-resistant varieties of grain hold out some hope, but the bulk of the continent is unlikely to ever see the jump in yields which brought food security to much of Asia in the 1970s and 1980s.

"There are 50 countries in the world which do not have enough resources to do local research — and most of them are in Africa," he said.

## Rock singer deserves 'pity': author

# Elvis image torn to pieces in new book

MEMPHIS, Tennessee, (UPI): Elvis Presley as a teenager was a shy, pimply-faced and lonely boy whose mother walked him to school until she convinced two neighbourhood boys to watch after him, says the author of a book about the rock 'n' roll legend.

And Jimmy Denson, who served as the rock 'n' roll legend's bodyguard during Presley's years at Humes High, said he is writing a book about Elvis' early years because he is tired of the "king" being worshipped.

"I'd love for it to be the last one (book) written about Elvis," said Denson, 62, who now lives in Memphis after some time as a private investigator in Houston. "That's why I've waited so long. No one who ever knew him could idolize the person I knew."

Denson, who calls his book *The Untold Story of Elvis: the Lauderdale Courts Years*, said he expects to find a publisher soon and hopes for publication by 1992.

He is writing it for his friends who grew up with Elvis in a Memphis housing project and watched him grow into a larger-than-life figure. Denson plans to donate 90 per cent of the proceeds of the book to charity.

"I'm not doing this for greed," he said. "If I was, I could have sold this story years ago."

"No one child in the Lauderdale Courts thought they were beneath Elvis. He was the last person on earth destined for success," Denson said.

Denson's parents, who were Pentecostal preachers, moved to Lauderdale Courts in 1947, one year before Vernon Presley brought his wife Gladys and son Elvis from a shotgun shack in Tupelo, Mississippi. The Presleys attended the Densons' Poplar Street Mission.

Denson vividly remembers the first time he saw the 12-year-old Elvis, in January 1948.

"I was walking with my sisters to school. He was holding on to his mother's hand and didn't turn loose of his mother's hand all the way to Humes High. That afternoon, she was at the front door waiting for Elvis," Denson said.



Elvis Presley in his heyday. A new book about the rock king says the king was not what he was made out to be.

"I knew at first glance, when I saw him hanging on to his mama's hand, that he was a tragic figure. He was taunted and screamed at by the other children who called him a mama's baby, and when the acne began, it was even worse," he said.

Gladys Presley stopped walking her son to school one day when she had a doctor's appointment and asked Denson and his brother, Jesse Lee, to walk Elvis to school. After that, the Denson brothers, who both had won trophies as amateur boxers,

became Elvis' personal bodyguards and mentors.

The Denson brothers also taught Elvis how to play the guitar and sing, but it was a struggle, Denson recalled. Denson's account of Elvis' introduction to music differs with others who say Elvis' uncle first taught him guitar.

"Gladys Presley made every move for him. She made a deal with my mother that when they could save enough money to buy a guitar, my brother could teach him.

Jesse Lee didn't want to do it. He said he would have to fight everybody in North Memphis if he had to teach Elvis.

"But my mother made him do it. It took years for him to learn a dozen chords. Jesse Lee also taught him how to sing without the corn in his mouth. He spoke using guttural words and it took him two years to answer questions with a full sentence," Denson said.

But Elvis never learned to write songs, Denson said. "All he could do was copy. He never wrote a song in his life. He had to hear the songs and then he could sing them," Denson said.

Elvis also was shy with girls," Denson said. "No girl would speak to him."

"His mother once forbade him to play with one girl because she was too rough and tough. But he loved every pretty girl, even at a distance."

Betty Mcmahon, who casually dated Elvis for about five years, was more of a buddy to him, but Elvis became furious when they broke up, Denson said.

"Her new boyfriend used to take her to the movies on Friday night. And there was Elvis as the usher. He would give them a dirty look as he led them to their seats, and he would pace. And he would give them a dirty look when they left."

When Elvis was 17, he began to change, Denson said. He paid \$4 in 1954 to record a demo record at Sam Phillips' recording studio in Memphis. A year later, he recorded *Blue Moon of Kentucky* and *That's All Right, Mama*, and two years later, he was touring the United States.

He was still a "sweet kid," at that time, until he signed with Col Tom Parker, Denson said.

"Then he started believing his press reports," said Denson, who travelled with Elvis until 1956. "And I think drugs changed him. He wasn't brought up to drugs in his Pentecostal home, but once he got away, his mother had no control."

"He had six hits before Col Parker signed him and put him on national shows. 'The Ed Sullivan Show,' that was what cinched it."

## Islamic group moves to curb belly dancing

### 'Adulterous filth'; dancers flogged

By Lee Stokes

CAIRO, (UPI): In the latest twist in the 70-year-old struggle between advocates of an Islamic state and Egypt's secular-oriented government, Islamic fundamentalists have targeted the centuries-old craft of belly dancing because they say the dance is immoral.

Mahmoud El Khodari, the 36-year-old leader of one fundamentalist group, boasted from his prison cell that his followers would flog any belly dancer caught performing her act.

"We beat up belly dancers we find to deter them from performing," said El Khodari, who was arrested recently for allegedly leading a group trying to set fire to a police car with the policeman still in it. The clash occurred after police shot to death a fundamentalist leader.

The hostility toward belly dancers is on religious grounds. Although belly dancing is thought to have originated in ancient Persia and remains popular throughout the Middle East, fundamentalists believe it is sinful because a woman should show herself only to her husband.

Fundamentalists seeking an alternative to violence have opted for lawsuits and other tactics to close down nightclubs.

Prominent fundamentalist lawyer Gafal Khalil Abdulrahman filed a lawsuit against the government last year, arguing that under Islamic law, all belly dancing venues should be closed.

Abdulrahman said that even though Egypt's constitution was not Islamic as such, it still claims inspiration from sharia, or Islamic law.

Justice Ministry officials do not expect a verdict until late this year, but nightclub owners fear his success would destroy both their lucrative trade and a colourful cultural tradition.

"What takes place in these nightclubs — drinking and belly dancing — is a violation of Islamic law," Abdulrahman said. "It is immoral, and should be stopped."

Some people in the Ministry of Tourism, which has also come under fire for promoting belly dancing in tourist literature, fear that a ban could deter foreign visitors and deprive cash-strapped Egypt of hard currency.

"Egypt is a tolerant country... any change will deter tourists," said one tourism official.

The anti-belly dancing lobby has also raised its voice in parliament. Although Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood was outlawed in the 1950s after an attempt to assassinate late president Gamal Abdel Nasser, supporters won about a quarter of the seats in parliament in 1987 — and have delivered some of the fiercest attacks on belly dancing.

"This is adulterous filth," fundamentalist deputy Maamoun El Hodeibi said at a recent parliamentary session. Hodeibi is a member of the Islamic Alliance, a so-called umbrella group that includes the banned Muslim Brotherhood.

Despite the outcry, physical attacks on belly dancers and nightclubs remain relatively rare.

"This is because we have taken our own security measures," said Mohammad Zaghloul, the wealthy owners of one downtown Cairo nightclub. Extremists last

year used Molotov cocktails to start a fire that burned down a belly dancing establishment in the region.

Belly dancing establishments range from the sleazy, downtown clubs that attract lower income Egyptians to the plush clubs near the Giza pyramids, where wealthy Egyptians and Gulf Arabs every night throw small fortunes in bank notes at the feet of favourite dancers.

A recent visitor to one of Cairo's lesser establishments climbed five flights of trash-strewn steps to enter a dimly lit, dusty room, with a stage and five-piece orchestra in one corner, and small tables and chairs in another.

A beffy master of ceremonies introduced each dancer to an all-male audience who threw money at the dancers.

"I make good money to ensure my children have a better life," said Mimim, a 32-year-old dancer. "But I work very hard for my money."

She rejected arguments that belly dancing was immoral.

"Some think it is bad... but for me, it is in the heart of the people."

Belly dancing is so entrenched in Egypt's popular culture, that one of the country's favourite songs runs: *I love belly dancing*.

That is why some fundamentalists believe that if they can banish belly dancing, the walls preventing them from establishing an Islamic state will crumble.

Wealthy belly dancers, especially the four or five top names, never leave home without their bodyguards. Rifle-toting, black-clad security police man roadblocks in areas where nightclubs abound.

Dancers such as Nagwa Fouad, Fifi Abdou and Soheir Zaki can earn up to \$2,000 from a brief appearance at a society wedding, where popular belief deems that a belly dancer brings good luck.

The attack against belly dancing has touched a raw nerve among many Egyptian intellectuals, who tend to promote the country's rich traditions in their writings, music and films.

Egyptian secular thinkers have long struggled to find a way of living with a resurgent wave of fundamentalism that some believe feeds on deteriorating living and educational standards.

The secular group received a boost when Egyptian writer Naguib Mahfouz won the 1988 Nobel prize for literature. Mahfouz often uses belly dancers as characters in his novels to portray the joys and traditions of Egypt's poor.

But President Hosni Mubarak's government, struggling to maintain a balance between a resurgent Islam and a need to modernise, bowed to fundamentalist pressure last year by banning scenes of belly dancing from state-run television.

Writers such as Mahfouz, whose book, "The Children of Gebelawi" was banned as anti-Islamic, point out that fundamentalists are most angered when confronted with expressions of popular and political culture that do not conform to an Islamic stereotype.

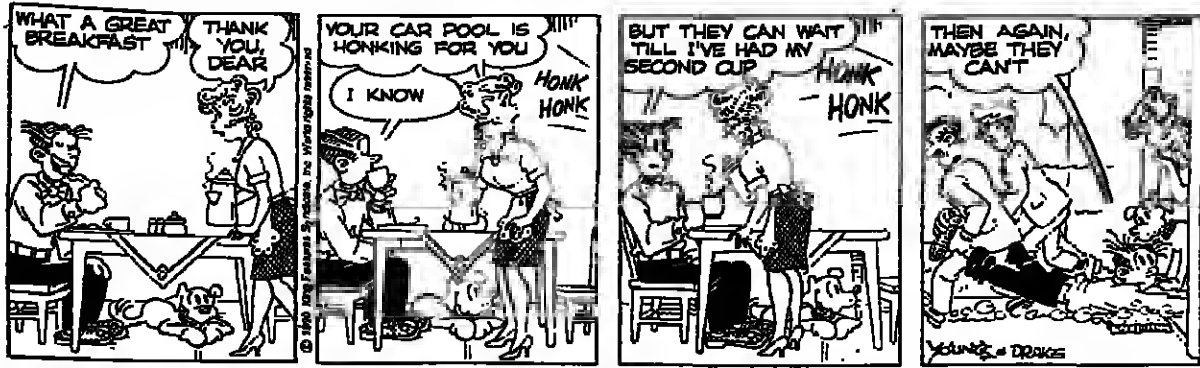


Nagwa Fouad demonstrates the talent that has made her famous in Egypt. Nagwa and others may be banned.



## BLONDIE

By Dean Young &amp; Stan Drake



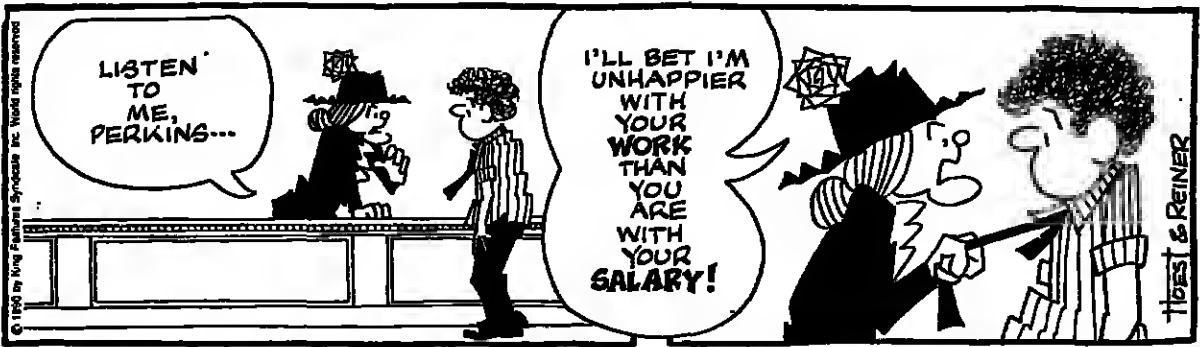
## MAGAR THE HORRIBLE

By Dave Coverly



## AS THE CRUMB

By Bill Hoest



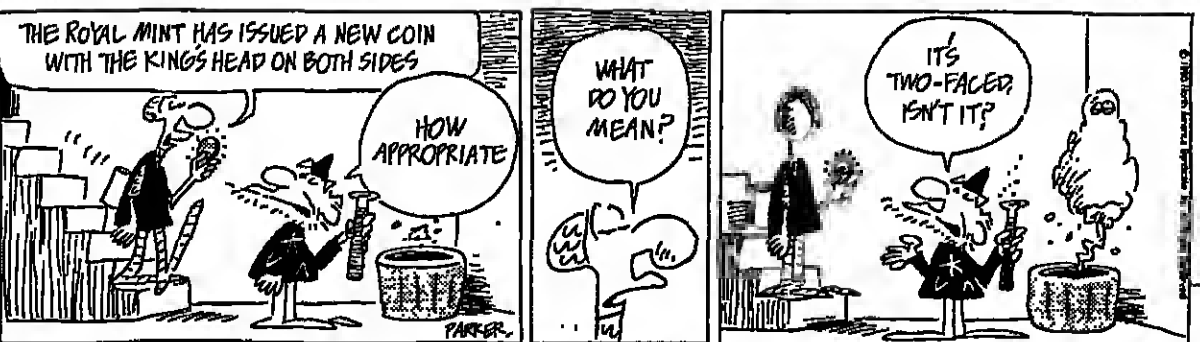
## BEETLEBAILEY

By Mark Wacker



## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brian Koppelman &amp; Jonny Lee Miller

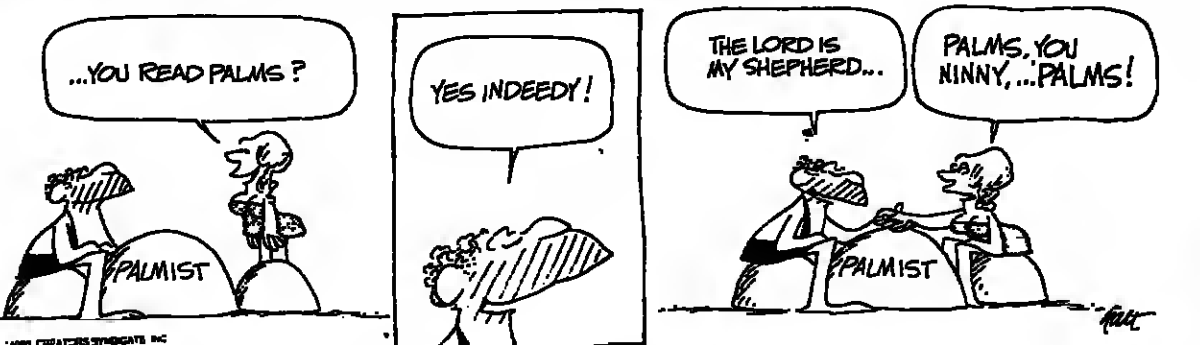


## ANDY CAPP



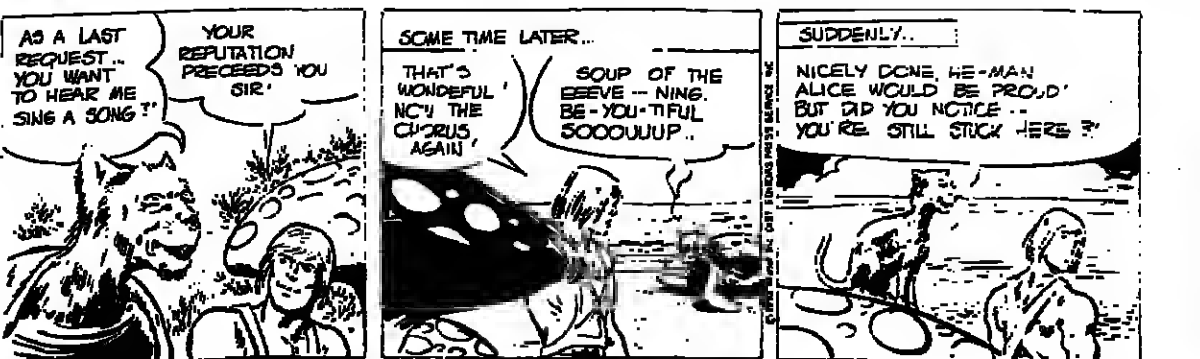
## B.C.

By Johnny Hart

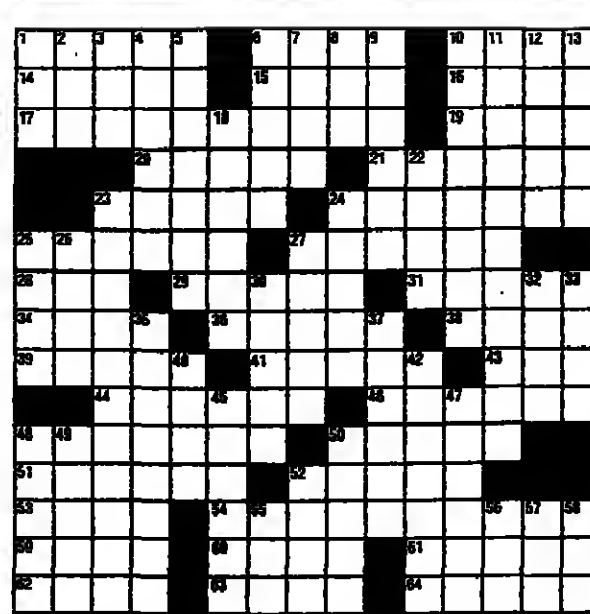


## HE-MAN

By G. Forten &amp; J. Shull



## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

- 1 Light beige  
6 Landed  
10 Shoe or palm  
14 Move furthest  
15 First of the three B's  
16 Melville's captain  
17 Capital of 11 Down  
19 Trademark  
20 Type style  
21 "On — Pond"  
23 Eliot's "Manner"  
24 Seabird colony  
25 State flower of 11 Down  
27 Provencal ideal of courtly love  
28 Catalina, for short  
29 Betting window sign  
31 Literary composition  
34 Star in Cygnus  
36 Jot  
38 Twist  
39 Shakespearean sprig  
41 Protein, survey  
43 Alder tree  
44 Revised a manuscript  
46 Court game  
48 Disney's "The Little —"  
50 Chopped  
51 — of: helped by  
52 Kind of rockfish  
53 U. of Maryland player  
54 Flowered herb  
59 Epochal  
60 Aware, of  
61 Employ anew  
62 At-home

## DOWN

- 1 Seventh sense, for short  
2 Weather abbr.  
3 The Grande, for one  
4 Introduce  
5 Frying pan  
6 Supports  
7 Narrow way  
8 Fed. commerce agcy.  
9 "Columbia, — of the Ocean"  
10 Height  
11 Ratified The Constitution May 29, 1790  
12 Avid  
13 Dark wood  
18 Type of alga  
22 Caen's river  
23 Militant crustacean  
24 Refreshing drink  
25 Traveler's permit  
26 Danube tributary  
27 Ate out  
30 Telegraphed  
32 Ear Comb. form  
33 Urges  
35 State tree of 11 Down  
37 Motor Inns  
40 Teller of tall tales  
42 Resort city in 11 Down  
45 Headcover of yore  
47 Closer  
48 Bishop's headress  
49 January, in Madrid  
50 "— a clue"  
52 Before long  
55 Single  
56 Regret  
57 Compass pt.  
58 Directed

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

BAISIS TISLIE SPIA  
ELUDE UNLIT PIG  
LABOR FLOVE UKE  
TIS EBOATS AMEN  
CENTS OPERA  
GIRDER SWINE  
AVID UMPIRE ADA  
LABORATORY PARADES  
ENE HERREN BOLE  
RADII LIBERIA  
STROP CARTA  
HIED CAPONE TIA  
RAH LABORS AVING  
FRIA AMEND DITOE  
WAN CEDE SANIER

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

## FIND THE KILLING LEAD

North-South vulnerable. West ways retreat to clubs. Once the heart fit was located, North elected to compete rather than defend.

## NORTH

♠ K 10 6  
♥ Q J 8 3  
♦ A 5  
♣ K J 8 4

## WEST

♠ J 9 8 4  
♥ A 10  
♦ J 8 6 3  
♣ A 5 3

## EAST

♠ Q 7 3 2  
♥ 5 4  
♦ K Q 10 9 4 2  
♣ 9

## SOUTH

♠ A 5  
♥ K 9 7 6 2  
♦ 7  
♣ Q 10 7 6 2

## The bidding:

West North East South

1 ♠ 3 ♦ 3 ♠

5 ♦ 5 ♠ Pass Pass

## Opening lead: ?

Books have been written on the subject of opening leads, but you cannot lay down rules to cover all situations. For instance, look only at the West hand and the bidding. Then decide what you would lead against South's five-heart contract.

With such a huge fit for opener's suit, there was no way East's preempt was going to keep South out of the auction. If partner did not have support for hearts, South could al-

seem, was to find East with either a singleton club, or a doubleton club with at least two hearts. So Pavlick led the ace of clubs and another. East's ruff sealed declarer's fate quickly.

Had East held a doubleton club, West intended winning the first trump lead and continuing with a third club. The whole defense, especially the choice of opening lead, was built around the fact that West had control of the trump suit.

The most likely chance, it seemed, was to find East with either a singleton club, or a doubleton club with at least two hearts. So Pavlick led the ace of clubs and another. East's ruff sealed declarer's fate quickly.

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## OUR STARS



**Aries**  
March 21 - April 20  
You will feel in high spirits and must beware of doing anything rash or silly. Do not allow your emotions to overtake the dictates of reason. Avoid acting from motives of jealousy or envy. Be helpful.



**Cancer**  
June 21 - July 20  
You must beware of spending more money than you can readily afford. Do not take too long to reply to a letter. Make sure you face up to reality and do not try to evade a promise you have made. Be considerate.



**Libra**  
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22  
Make sure you are not late for an appointment let alone forgetting it altogether. You should try to remain strictly practical, not too much in the clouds. Have a little more faith in yourself. Be reasonable.



**Capricorn**  
Dec. 23 - Jan. 19  
It would be wrong to ignore some small infection, if you do it could well become worse. You will get some small advice but it will not be easy to take it. You will be able to consolidate a gain you have made recently. Be tactful.



**Taurus**  
April 21 - May 20  
Something you have long been meaning to do should not be delayed any further. Do not just let things happen but do not try to change the inevitable. You should seek to use just the little more commonsense. Be tolerant.



**Leo**  
July 21 - Aug. 22  
You should think less of yourself more of those close to you. And seek to avoid doing anything which you know would be on your conscience. Make sure you do not do anything that could be bad for your health. Be hopeful.



**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 22  
You will be rather tempted to eat too many sweet things — decide now is a good time to make a few changes, but consider them carefully first. Show a little more goodwill towards others. Be alert.



**Aquarius**  
Jan. 23 - Feb. 19  
You are liable to lead a too sedentary life, do try to take a little more gentle exercise and to spend some time in the open air. Make sure you avoid all exaggerations and distortions. Listen to what others have to say. Be credible.



**Gemini**  
May 21 - June 20  
You will find it easier to do something that you had been having difficulties with. However do not rest on your laurels, use them as a stepping stone to further progress. Have a good laugh at yourself and the situation you are in. Be practical.



**Virgo**  
Aug. 23 - Sept. 22  
Not everything is to your liking, but you will be able to adapt. Your lucky numbers are 8 and 32. Do not just hope things will improve, try to do something positive towards it. Do not degrade yourself by being jealous or malicious. Be confident.



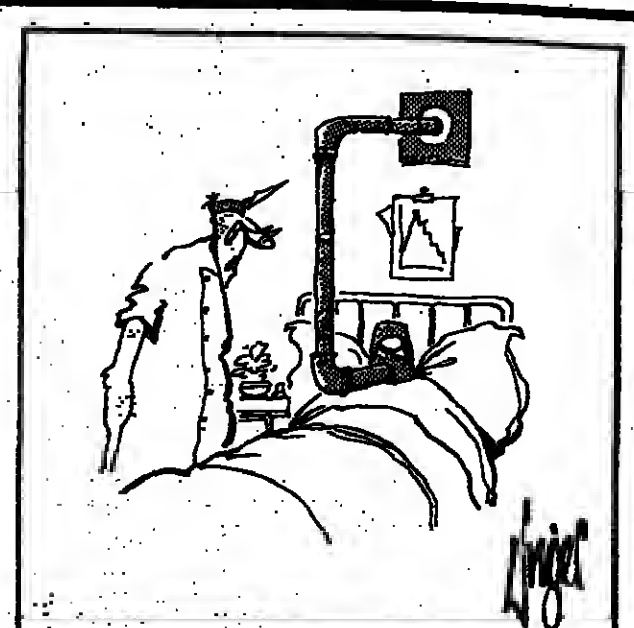
**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 23 - Dec. 22  
Something you had thought would be easy will turn out not to be. Never mind, just persevere and all will be well in the end. Take a little more care of your personal appearance and hygiene. Be generous.



**Pisces**  
Feb. 23 - March 20  
Do not expect to have everything your own way but do not just let things happen either. Avoid being too critical nor take too much for granted. Concern yourself more with something that interests your partner. Be frugal.



"I think you ordered us a three-course meal from the wine list."



"You don't want to infect all the other patients, do you?"



VARIETY

People

# Penny loves her pets — all 300 of them

By Claire Lockhart

KIND-HEARTED Penny Boyd shares her home with 300 injured, distressed or just plain hopeless birds and animals. If a hedgehog catches pneumonia, 37-year-old Penny takes it in and gives it a nice warm cardboard box and a large dose of tender, loving care. So far this year she has no less than 16 prickly cases in her overcrowded house.

Then there are the foxes and owls who have come off worse in close encounters with cars. Add to that homeless badgers, orphaned fox cubs and squirrels that don't feel very well.

And, just in case Penny becomes lonely, she has exotic pets like an arctic fox and marmosets, wallabies and monkeys. She also finds room for her "other half", Roger.

When it comes to an animal in need, Penny just can't say "no". Neighbours beat a path to her door with everything from a raven with a broken wing to a pet deer with anti-social habits.

Her house and garden at Burstow, Surrey, has become a wildlife sanctuary. And now, because of Penny's round-the-clock mercy work, it is officially registered as a charity.

But still Penny's kind heart is costing a fortune and is putting her £9,000 in debt. Thousands of birds and animals she has taken in over the last three years, keep eating and drinking gourmet-style. Then, to Penny's delight, they love and leave her. Most go back to the wild.

Blonde Penny who gave up her job as a riding instructor to help animals in dis-

trous, told me: "You've got to feed, clean and care for all these animals. It just got to the stage where I wanted to take the animals in. But, financially, there was no way I could support it on my own. That's why I formed the charity."

"Our main problem has been trying to raise money. Roger has given me every penny he can, but costs are now running at between about £100 and £400 a week. The average hedgehog probably costs me about £60 to get fit enough to go back to the wild."

Penny went on: "Because of the dry summer, the hedgehogs didn't get enough to eat, as worms stayed underground. So, instead of hibernating for the winter, they are wandering around in the cold looking for food. And that's how they catch pneumonia."

"While the hedgehogs are awake here, they are tucked into between a quarter and a half a tin of cat food a day. And that will go on until the spring. People don't understand how much I have to spend."

Penny invests most of her waking hours in helping her stricken patients. She looked after 1,300 animals in the last eight months. She explained: "I'm not kidding when I say I work an 18-hour day. I flop into bed at one or two o'clock in the morning and get up at seven. I sometimes ask myself, 'What am I doing this for?'"

"I didn't set out to run a sanctuary. It just snowballed. Neighbours would tell each other about the woman around the corner who would take in any injured animals — and the word spread."

The busiest time for Penny's Burstow Wildlife Sanctuary is the spring. She



Penny cares for a sick fox who has just been brought to the sanctuary.

Penny's love of animals began when she was a child living in Bangladesh. In summer, she is out in her van picking up injured animals and taking them home. All that the animals and birds need to get Penny's loving care is a desperate need for help.



Penny Boyd with three young badgers she has reared.

recalled: "It was unreal. We had fox cubs, badger cubs, baby deer... everything. We physically hand-reared between 80 and 90 baby birds, and some of them were being fed every half hour."

"Most of the animals were orphans. There was just box after box after box of them. In the end, I was just a zombie."

"The 17 orphaned baby foxes needed feeding every three or four hours. So I'd give them a feed at one o'clock in the morning and then be up at five to give them the next one."

"There were boxes of fox cubs, baby badgers, baby squirrels, baby hedgehogs, baby birds... and I was just about cracking up!"

During the summer, Penny was out in her van almost every day picking up an injured animal and if needed, taking them to the vet's. Then on to home.

Penny has a particular weakness for ravens, crows and owls. At the moment she is nursing 48 owls, most of which have been hit by cars. She explained: "Most of the 'owls' were hit by cars. They came in when the clocks went back for winter time. Their body clock hadn't changed and they came out at night at the same time as the rush hour traffic was at its peak. So we had a lot of nocturnal animals injured in road accidents."

Now Penny hopes to raise enough money for an animal ambulance. And she is already building a little hospital behind her house.

Penny admits: "I'm worried that, the better known we become, the more animals we're going to have to deal with and the more money we're going to need. It is a vicious circle."

"I know I will never be able to sit back and look after every animal without worrying about the money. At present, I lie awake at night thinking about what I owe. I need to know that I'm getting deeper into debt."

Even though Penny worries about money, she has never refused to take in an injured animal. These have included a deer and some particularly vicious stoats and weasels.

One of the tamest animals at the sanctuary is a fox which wags his tail when he sees her. Then he rolls on his back to have his tummy tickled.

And Penny believes that all the hard work and worry is well worthwhile. She told me: "Every day is totally different. Sometimes the phone never stops ringing."

"The best part of the day is usually spent feeding and cleaning the animals. And if I get called out to pick up an animal, I'll be

working until two in the morning. But I wouldn't do anything else in the world."

And Penny's greatest joy is when she can release a patient, now fit and well, back into the wild. But there can be problems here, too. She explained: "If I take in an injured fox that's been hit by a car, there's no problem. We can fix him up and then release him back in the same spot that we found him. Then he's back in the same territory and knows exactly where he's going."

"Where we do have problems, is when we have cubs. This year we have reared 17 young foxes."

"If they are orphans, they have no territory of their own. So you have to find out what the fox population is in the area. If you put one fox in another fox's territory, they're both at risk. For there isn't enough food to go round."

Penny has had the same problems with badger cubs. So she consults a badger protection group in finding good places to release them. But all her patients can't be released. She explained: "We've three badger cubs at the moment whose mother was killed on the road. I had to bottle feed them and became 'mum' to them. So now they're too tame to go back to the wild."

"But my whole aim is to get the injured animals back to the wild as soon as they are well. I do not like to see animals behind bars. I think what keeps me going is the enjoyment I get from letting an animal go free."

"There have been animals that I have loved. But I never regret putting them back into the wild. For this is where they should be."

Penny's love of animals began when she was a child living in Bangladesh, where her father was a tea-planter. She recalled: "If anybody found an injured bird or animal, I'd give them money to bring it to me."

"Once I reared a Indian parakeet, which had fallen out a tree. It didn't have a single feather. He stayed with me for about six months before flying off to join a flock of parakeets."

"Then every night when that flock came back over our house he would come down on my shoulder. The bird would stay with me for three or four minutes before flying off again."

Now Penny has birds by the dozen at her home. And animals as well. All they need to get her loving care is a desperate need for help.

Donations to Burstow Wildlife Sanctuary, Old Orchard, Church Lane, Burstow, Surrey, England.

# Gaelic loses to English onslaught

By Paul Majendie

DUBLIN, (Reuters): Speaking Irish may be a potent symbol of nationalism in this fiercely proud country but the language is dying on its feet, a languages professor argues in a blunt new epitaph for Gaelic.

Mass emigration from Gaelic-speaking districts, the onslaught of English from television, an end to isolated rural communities and the pull of the big city have all been nails in the coffin for Gaelic.

"There is no room for honest doubt that the Irish language is now dying," argues Reg Hindley, a British University lecturer who is a leading expert on minority European languages.

The latest Irish census showed that one million people profess to speak Irish — that is almost one in three members of the population who are all compulsorily taught Irish at school.

But after two years of research, Hindley argues in a new book "The Death of the Irish Language" that 8,000 would be a more realistic figure for the number

any economic argument with Irish. A world of 320 million English speakers beckons out there," Hindley notes.

"Irish people adopted English and had their children taught it not because they liked it but because it opened boundless opportunities to them."

Even the remotest villages can now pick up large doses of Anglo-American culture from television, Hindley notes.

"As a killer of family conversation it is unprecedented. Grandparents' tales which used to entertain the children tend now to be an unwarranted distraction from soap opera."

"Television is everywhere reckoned the most potent current influence against Irish among the young. I have termed it the universal tranquilliser of pre-school infants for busy mothers and noted its similar palliative effects on fractious teenagers."

Hindley said many people had criticised Irish language programmes on the state-run Radio Telefis

*Speaking Irish may be a symbol of nationalism but the language is dying on its feet. The latest Irish census shows that one million people profess to speak Irish — that is almost one in three of the population. A more realistic figure would be 8,000 says a new book "The Death of the Irish Language." More and more Irish people are turning to English language, which opens a door to untold treasures.*

of people in the dwindling Gaeltachts (Gaelic-speaking districts) who really use it.

He argues "Irish as a living language will have expired once there are no longer mothers who speak it to their newborn infants because it comes naturally and unconsciously to their lips without measured thought or national sentiment."

Gaeltachts have been given special protection in Ireland since the 1920s after 700 years of often repressive colonial rule by Britain.

The state, eager to foster and encourage use of the language, gave them special grants and their own state-run radio. School children visit in summer from outside the Gaeltachts to improve their Irish.

The language is a requirement for those wanting to join the police force and for higher grade executive posts in the civil services.

Concomitant in Western Ireland is perhaps the best known Gaeltacht but even there Hindley argues it is a losing battle.

The 1845-1849 potato famine killed one million people and sparked off mass emigration that halved the population of Ireland. Gaeltachts, the poorest and most isolated regions, were among the hardest hit.

For those wanting to leave, speaking English was a passport to untold treasures. "English always wins

Eireann (RTE) broadcasting network as low-budget and highly localised.

RTE rejected those criticisms, with a spokesman arguing: "We spend around three million pounds (4.5 million dollars) each year on *Raidió na Gaeltachta*. There are 400,000 people who regularly tune in to the news on the station and many watch Irish language programmes on RTE television."

Many companies who invested in the Gaeltachts have failed in the past and one old man told Hindley that the only business that could succeed in these pockets of mass emigration would be one making suitcases.

But just how accurate is Hindley's gloomy epitaph? The Irish independent newspaper canvassed prominent Irish speakers to see what they thought. Many of his views were echoed.

Broadcaster Cynthia Ní Mhurchu argued: "As regards the decline in the number of Irish speakers in the Gaeltacht areas, I think this problem has to be attributed to the high emigration rates than a lack of interest in the language."

Parliamentarian Dinny McGinley agreed that a mass media onslaught was damaging the language but added: "I would think it terrible that, while Eastern Europeans are striving to establish their identity at this time in history, we would casually forsake our rich identity."

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: I'm desperate for some easy-to-understand information about my condition. I believe I have "Chronic Fatigue Syndrome," but can find little material that makes much sense to me. I don't want to go on this way, and find little help in what my own physician tells me. Will you please provide some answers? I know you will help many people if you do.

ANSWER: This syndrome is certainly one of the more perplexing situations that physicians have to deal with. It's called a syndrome because, as yet there are no identifiable causes, and therefore no specific treatments available.

The working definition shows our lack of precise knowledge about the ailment. Chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) is defined as fatigue that occurs fairly acutely, in otherwise healthy individuals, reduces their ability to carry on their normal routines by more than 50 per cent, and is of at least six months duration.

Before a physician can make this diagnosis, a large number of other possible causes must be ruled out, including acute infections, inflammatory diseases, adverse drug reactions, and significant psychiatric disorders, particularly depression.

Patients can have a wide variety of symptoms, including headaches and sleep disturbances, confusion and loss of memory, irritability, difficulty with concentrating and performing mental tasks such as arithmetic. There can be a numbness and tingling sensations, muscle weakness, muscle aches and pains (myalgias) joint pains (arthralgias). In addition, a low-grade fever is present, along with a sore throat and enlarged lymph glands in the neck area or armpits.

## Chronic fatigue syndrome hard to diagnose and treat

At least two of the three physical signs must be present before the diagnosis of CFS can be made. Despite previous theories, infection with the Epstein Barr virus does not seem to be associated with this ailment. Recent studies seem to indicate that there may be a connection between CFS and fibromyalgia, another condition that is difficult to diagnose and treat. While blood tests may be performed, they're more useful in finding other causes for the fatigue than for diagnosing CFS.

Treatment is pretty much a case of treating the symptoms, with anti-depressants used when depression is severe. The outlook is not promising either, since most patients do not return to their previous levels of energy, and must accept life at a reduced pace, unless a cause and cure can be discovered.

Across my desk: While we're fighting the problem of AIDS, we may also be losing another war on the sexually transmitted disease battleground. A recent report from the Centers for Disease Control indicates that the numbers of cases of syphilis reported in 1988 reached a 40-year high. While the goal of seven cases of syphilis per 100,000 Americans had been established, the actual count was a whopping 16.2 per 100,000. And instead of a count of 1.5 cases of congenital syphilis per 100,000 births, the numbers reached 17.7 per 100,000 births. The fight against gonorrhea and pelvic inflammatory disease is making headway, but perhaps the educational campaigns against chancroid, herpes and AIDS, are making the message of syphilis less well understood. While many believe that effective education about these diseases, their transmission and dangers should be the main weapon for disease prevention, it seems as if the message is not getting through.

## Cosmetic surgery

# Cairo doctor makes life worth living for some

By Katia Sabet

CAIRO (WNL): Despite the giant steps forward taken by modern medicine, the so-called miracles of plastic surgery remain a lottery as evidenced in recent court cases brought by several disfigured victims in the United States. Choosing a well-recognized plastic surgeon remains the key to success, but in countries like Egypt where plastic surgery is practiced only by qualified surgeons, consumers have some added protection.

In Cairo, one of the leading men in the field is Dr Mohammed Adly El Bechri, 56, whose long medical career has made him one of the country's foremost experts in cosmetics and reconstructive surgery. "While general surgery is often a life-saving measure, the surgery I practice is usually something that has been voluntarily decided by the patient and is designed either to rebuild or improve things," he explained recently in his office. A consultant to several government and private hospitals in Cairo, he earned diplomas in Egypt, the United States and England.

Plastic surgery often is more than just luxury performed to satisfy a client's whim, he said. It stems from a deep psychological need: "I often see patients who are not satisfied by their appearance. Very often, these are perfect-

ly normal people, pleasant-looking even, but who are deeply dissatisfied by one or several of their features: large mouth, prominent nose, breasts that are either too heavy or too small. Mostly these people have come to feel that for some reason their external appearance no longer coincides with their personality and they hate the image they see in the mirror."

Dr El Bechri also points to cases of clients who seek to change their appearance for professional reasons: "These are people who are involved in public life and whose appearance is crucial, almost an instrument of work. Not all our clients, therefore, are mature women who want to erase the traces of time. Quite often these are young women and men who are turning to cosmetic surgery in increasing numbers because they realize that a young, dynamic look is an asset."

Patients are dependent on the surgeon's sense of proportion and symmetry and on his capacity to envision results before the work is done. Noted Dr El Bechri: "In plastic surgery, we are dealing with people who are perfectly healthy and we must therefore guarantee a high level of success. This is not always easy. A human being is like a closed box, and despite extensive preliminary examinations, one never knows what one is going

to find once the surgeon's knife is at work and opens the box." According to Dr El Bechri, the surgeon must be in a position to guarantee his patient at least an 80 per cent chance of success, if only to justify the cost of the operation.

Consumers should beware that high fees don't necessarily mean expertise. Despite his reputation, El Bechri charges relatively low fees — a face-lift typically costs between \$1,000 and \$2,000, as does an operation to remove excess fat from the stomach — while other Egyptian surgeons charge as much as \$5,000 for similar operations.

Dr El Bechri likes to stress that the relationship between the surgeon and his patient must be based on trust, which sometimes means that he is forced to turn a patient away. "In some cases, the very nature of the skin prohibits intervention, and in others, the muscles would not be able to withstand any extra tension," he said, also warning that post-operative care is crucial to avoid complications and to ensure success. For example, incisions can become infected if they are not properly cared for and can leave unsightly scars that ruin the surgeon's work.

Perhaps more significant than his work as a plastic surgeon is Dr El Bechri, who is a member of several top international professional bodies. He also teaches plastic surgery at the Military

Academy of Medicine and is married to Dr Alia Nassar, a professor of anatomy at the Ain Chams University. They have two children, both involved in medicine.

Deeply interested in research, Dr El Bechri noted that both cosmetic and reconstructive surgery are dependent on science and new technologies. Progress in the field has been spectacular, he added. "Science has moved ahead so fast that in a matter of years, if not months, we may be able to have an unlimited supply of a patient's skin." Referring to ongoing research into methods of growing pieces of skin in a nutritious solution from a small piece taken from the patient, he explained that this type of skin graft would be more successful because the patient's body would not reject its own skin. This holds potentially vast promise, especially for victims of severe burns. Equally promising is research into similar techniques to grow bone matter and cartilage.

"One of the most important advances of recent years concerns methods of expanding the skin," Dr El Bechri added. The surgeon inserts a small bag under the skin which is gradually filled with a saline solution. When the skin has stretched into the required shape, the bag is removed.

Scientific research has also led to considerable improvement in the technique

known as liposuction, which consists in draining excess fat from various parts of the body. Although widely used in recent years, the method often left unattractive folds of excess skin. According to Dr El Bechri, such after-effects are now minimized by draining the fat from several points in a "criss-cross" pattern. "With this method, and a strict control of the amount of fat removed, we can avoid most problems," he said.

Quite apart from appearance, excess body fat can be a threat to a patient's general health, he stressed. One of the most common operations performed on both men and women in Egypt involves removing excess fat from the stomach area. "Sometimes it is no longer a question of esthetics but a vital necessity. When I remove kilos and kilos of fat, it's beneficial to the heart and other organs. This is a major operation... and results are often spectacular, both in physical and in psychological terms," he noted.

It appears that the operation itself often triggers further slimming. "Weight loss occurs not only in the area where the fat was removed but in the whole body," the doctor explained. "It takes between four to six months for the result to show, but it is stable and gratifying."

On the rise is demand for bone transplants, often used to rejuvenate a tired face.



Widely recognised as an expert in cosmetic surgery, Dr Mohammed Adly El Bechri works at improving his patients' life.







JUNIOR TIMES

# Dance: a universal experience

WHENEVER we hear music with a strong rhythm, we seem to have a natural urge to tap our feet or move our bodies in time with it. This feeling is really a desire to dance, and people throughout the ages have experienced it. People everywhere dance, and every country has developed its own special kinds of dancing. Traditional folk dances, based on events in everyday life, such as harvesting or falling in love, are found in every country.

Watching other people dance is also enjoyable, and dancing has been a popular form of entertainment for centuries. Just as Salome entertained King Herod in Palestine with her dance of the seven veils, so do modern ballet companies or dancers in stage musicals provide enjoyment for theatre audiences today.

But people dance not only for enjoyment or to entertain others. Members of simple tribal communities in Africa and elsewhere believed that dancing has a magical power. They danced to please their gods or ancestor spirits in order to ensure good hunting, abundant crops, or ample rain.

Throughout history, dancing has been used to tell stories. Traditional Indian Manipuri and

Kathak dances, European ballet and Communist Chinese ballet, with its strong political lessons, are examples. People in ancient times danced to express their feelings or to please their gods or their rulers. The ancient Greeks considered dancing a great art, essential for physical health.

In Europe, ordinary people continued to dance their traditional dances throughout the Middle Ages. In the houses of the nobles, more stately kinds of dance developed, such as the minuet and later the waltz. Comedy-ballets performed as part of the entertainment at the court of King Louis XIV of France were the origin of modern ballet. A wide variety of dances became popular among ordinary people from the 1700s, including the polka, waltz, and many others. Some were brief fashions, such as the Cakewalk and Black Bottom. Young people dancing today have rediscovered the basic purpose of dancing: to express joy simply by moving their bodies as they feel, in time to the music.

**Famous People in Dancing**  
Astruc, Sir Frederick (William Mallandaine) (born 1906), a choreographer, was born in

Ecuador. He was both a dancer and a choreographer with Ballet Club (later Ballet Rambert) and the Vic-Wells company (later the Royal Ballet), and later a director of the Royal Ballet. The many ballets he created include *Cinderella*, *La Fille Mal Gardée*, *Les Patineurs*, and *A Month in the Country*. His ballets are noted for their classical, lyrical beauty.

Astaire, Fred (Frederick Austerlitz) (born 1899), American dancer and actor, began his career dancing in vaudeville and musicals with his sister Adele. He then made many films, the most successful including *Flying Down to Rio*, *Top Hat*, and *Follow the Fleet*, in which he partnered Ginger Rogers. In later years he played non-dancing roles in films.

De Valera, Dame Ninette (Edris Stannus) (born 1898), born in Ireland, was first a dancer in the Vic-Wells company (later the Royal Ballet) and directed it until 1963. The many ballets she choreographed include *Checkmate*, *Job*, and *The Rake's Progress*.  
Diaghilev, Sergei (1872-1929), a great Russian impresario, created the famous Ballets Russes

company that toured Europe and North and South America between 1909 and 1929. His company amazed audiences everywhere with its superb dancers, such as Nijinsky, its brilliant choreography, bright sets, and exciting music.

Duncan, Isadora (1878-1927), influential American dancer, created an individual style of dancing based on simple, natural, and graceful movement, such as walking and running. She danced barefoot, dressed in simple tunics and long, flowing scarves, on a stage without any scenery.

Fokine, Michel (1880-1942), Russian-born dancer and choreographer, helped to create a more natural style of ballet. He choreographed over 60 ballets, most of them for Diaghilev's company. His best-known include *The Firebird*, *Le Spectre de la Rose*, *Les Sylphides*, and *Petrushka*.

Fossy, Dame Marge (Margaret Hookham) (born 1919), an English ballerina, joined the Vic-Wells Ballet (now the Royal Ballet) in 1934 and became its leading ballerina. She also danced as a guest artist with many other international companies. One of her most famous

roles is Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty*.  
Helpmann, Sir Robert (born 1909), an Australian choreographer and actor, became a dancer in the Vic-Wells Ballet (now the Royal Ballet) in 1933 and has appeared with it ever since. He also acted in plays and films, such as *The Red Shoes*. The many ballets he choreographed include *Hamlet*, *Miracle in the Gorbals*, *The Day after Tomorrow*, and *Yugen*. He was also a director of the Australian Ballet.

Kelly, Gene (born 1912), American dancer, choreographer, actor, and director, danced and acted in many stage and film musicals, such as *For Me and My Gal*. He choreographed and appeared in others, such as *An American in Paris*, and directed and danced in still others, including *Singin' in the Rain*. He has also acted in non-dancing roles in many other films.

Nijinsky, Vaslav (1890-1950), born in Russia, is regarded by many as the world's greatest ever ballet dancer. He was noted for his high leaps and brilliant enchaînés. He joined Diaghilev's Ballets Russes in 1909, and became famous for his roles in such ballets as *Petrushka*. He also created several ballets, including *The Afternoon of a Faun* and *The Rite of Spring*. He later became mentally ill.

Nureyev, Rudolf (born 1938), a Russian ballet dancer, choreographer, and producer, began his career in the Kirov Ballet in 1958. When on tour with the company in Paris in 1961, he ran away. He then danced with various companies in the West, and formed a long partnership with Margot Fonteyn in the Royal Ballet. He is greatly admired for his technical skill and intense acting ability. He has also choreographed and produced ballets for many leading companies throughout the world.

Pavlova, Anna (1881-1931), a Russian ballerina who settled in England, was prima ballerina in the Imperial Russian Ballet from 1906 to 1913. She also danced abroad and appeared with Diaghilev's company. In 1914, she formed her own company and toured the world with her repertoire of classics. She was noted for her graceful movement and her soaring leaps. Her most famous roles were in *The Swan* and *The Autumn Breeze*.  
Ulanova, Galina (born 1910), one of Russia's greatest ballerinas, danced in the Kirov Ballet from 1928 to 1944 and the Bolshoi Ballet until 1962. A fine actress as well as a superb dancer, she gave memorable performances in such ballets as *Romeo and Juliet* and *Giselle*.

## Happy birthday



Rakesh Vasani turns 8 today, May 24.



Girish Chandran turned 12 on May 23.



Farhan Mukadam turned 6 on May 25.



Farhana Mustafa turned 7 on May 23.



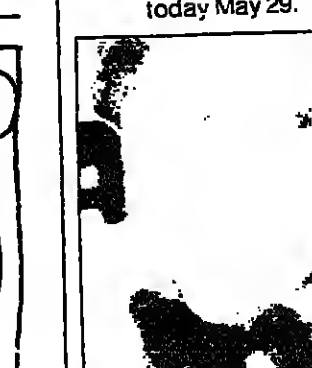
Sonia Varghese turned 4 on May 28.



Abha Ahuja turns 7 on May 30.



Siddharth Mehra turns 1 today May 29.



Fahd Al Abdel Ghani turned 5 on May 13.



Far left: Tribal dancing in southern Africa. Dancing is an important part of tribal life. There are special ceremonial dances for bringing victory or rain, or for warding off evil spirits. Births, marriages, and initiation ceremonies are also celebrated by special dances. And even as primitive peoples become more integrated into the modern world, they still retain much of their traditional dance.

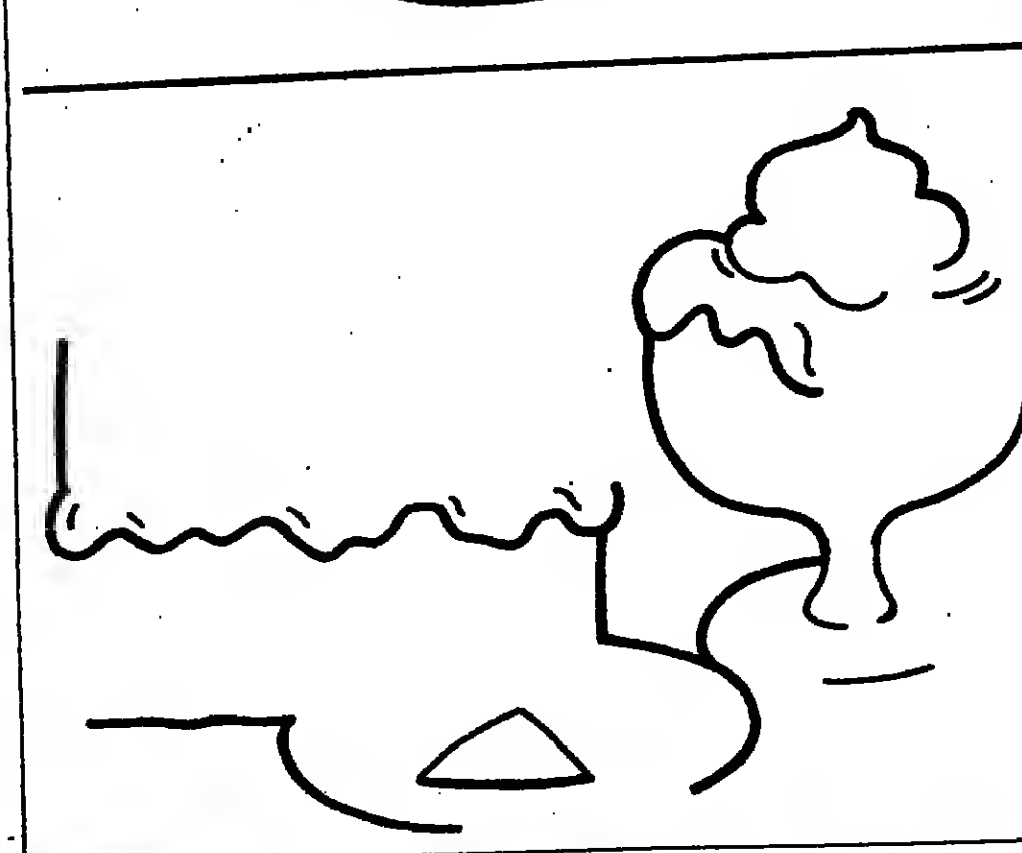
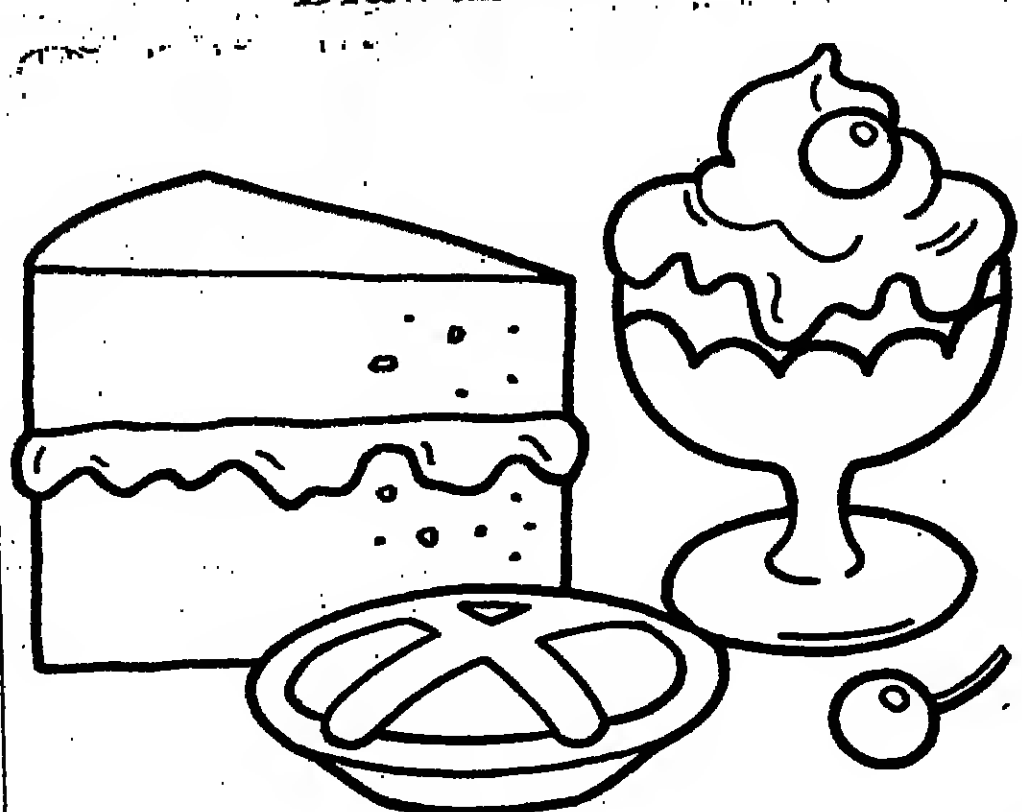
Left: The legendary Nijinsky in *Le Spectre de la Rose* (1911).

Above: A pas de deux.

### Dot-to-dot



### Draw and colour



### Write the correct answer in the box.

- $\frac{1}{3}$  of 3 is
- $\frac{1}{2}$  of 4 is
- $\frac{1}{3}$  of 6 is
- $\frac{1}{4}$  of 8 is
- $\frac{1}{2}$  of 6 is
- $\frac{1}{2}$  of 8 is
- $\frac{2}{3}$  of 6 is
- $\frac{3}{5}$  of 5 is
- $\frac{1}{5}$  of 10 is
- $\frac{1}{3}$  of 9 is

### Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?  
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?  
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!  
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.  
The details we need are:

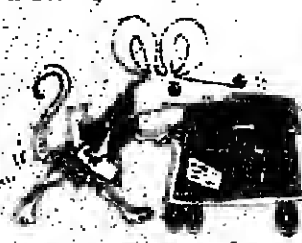
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_  
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What's grey, has a trunk and four legs?

A mouse going on holiday!





# Indian director comes a step closer to goal

INDIAN film director Moeen Amjad believed he had reached his goal by launching his first movie *Mil Gayee Manzil Mujhe*. After filming a best part of the film, and spending more than Rs. 120,000, the leading lady Parveen Babi "vanished". Babi, who had schizophrenia, did not return. Amjad's film lay in the cans. But his determination did not die. He restarted the movie with another heroine, Moon Moon Sen, and the film was released last year. Mithun Chakraborty played the male lead. For Amjad, it was one step ahead for going solo.

Amjad, who went solo in recent years, is no newcomer in the show biz world. He has been in the glamour biz for two decades, learning the technicalities of filmmaking from such names as Kamal Amrohi and Nasir Hussain. Influenced by his mentor Hussain, Amjad has a weakness for "romantic subjects."

The young director has two ambitious ventures in the pipeline. Currently he is on a private visit to Kuwait to seek backers for his films.

Working as an assistant director with Nasir Hussain, Amjad was involved in every aspect of film making. "My association with them gave me the experience and confidence, to become a fully-fledged director," he said in an interview. He was associated with such successful films as *Yaadon Ki Baraat*, *Teesri Manzil*, *Hum Kisi Se Kum Nahin*, and others.

Like most filmmakers and directors, Amjad feels strongly about the advent of video and what it has done to the practice of seeing movies in theatres. "There is no rapport; the

in the story as they could when the lights dimmed in the cinema," he said. And adds confidently: "People will go back to the cinema."

The cost of filmmaking has skyrocketed, particularly the price of raw film. And due to the onslaught of video, filmmakers are feeling the pinch. But he decries industry pundits' claims of the Bombay film industry's imminent collapse.

"We are going through a crisis, but we are a resilient lot and we will survive," he said.

Amjad has survived the ups and downs of filmmaking but the show goes on for the director, he is bent on proving his mettle. Did Amjad find the formula for success?

"If there was a success formula, we'd all be making hits; there's no hard and fast rule; sometimes people praise a film like *Maine Pyar Kiya*, and film with a star-cast like *Ganga Jamuna Saraswati* bombs."

But why do people make films like *Ganga*...

"Filmmakers are wary of experimenting; they don't want to take risks, mainly because if they did the financier would back out, the distributor won't buy the film and if the filmmaker finds the money to make a different kind of film, it will lie in the cans," he explained.

So, filmmakers use gimmicks — like a mixture of songs, dances, romance, action and vendetta. Amjad claims he wants to be different.

The two projects Amjad has in mind deal with sentimental and emotional subjects. "They will be small budget films with fresh faces," he said.

And if the going is good, they'll be released soon.

(FA)



Moeen Amjad and Mrs Amjad with Mithun (right) on the sets of his first film, *Mil Gayee Manzil Mujhe*



Amjad directing Moon Moon Sen



Some of the children who exhibited their paintings and sketches.



Dr Omar presents a prize to one of the winners, Amal Al Ghanim of the NCCAL is also seen.



Iraqi diplomat Hamed Al Mulla.

## Arab children awarded

The winners of the Arab Children's Drawing competition received their prizes at a colourful ceremony held at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery. Sixty-nine Arab children participated in the exhibition.

Director of the National Council of Art, Culture and Letters Dr Farouk Al Omar said he was impressed by the range of subjects chosen by the children. He said: "Each drawing expressed love, innocence and honesty."

The prizes distribution took place at a ceremony attended by the ambassadors of several Gulf and Arab states.



Bahrain's Ambassador to Kuwait Essa M. Al Jamea received the prizes on behalf of Bahraini children who won in the competition. Above: Al Jamea receiving the prize from Dr Omar.

## WHAT'S ON

### Arts

**Boushahri Gallery**  
A MONTH-LONG exhibition of paintings by eight Arab artists is now being held at the Boushahri Gallery, North Salamiya Bldg. Salem Al Mubarak St. The works of such artists as Jaafar Islah, Jafar Kaki, Rashed Diyah, Dia Al Azzawi and Saleh Jamea are on show. Open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm; 4 to 7.30 pm; until month end.

### Theatre

**IAC One-Act Play Contest**  
May 30: Madhu and Friends present: *Krihuv Nanni*; Malayalam; Stage Index perform: *Shanti Parvam*, Malayalam.  
May 31: Bengali Cultural Society's *Mazich Songbad*; Bengali; IAC badminton team perform *Chanteeran and His Clan*; Malayalam. Nitya Bharati present *Kafan* (Shroud); Hindi.  
June 1: Award Nite and Entertainment Show, followed by dinner at 7 pm.

All performances at IAC, Funaitees: 7.30 pm. For details call 3904817. Entry passes for all performances, including Award Nite are available from IAC.

### Social

**PAC membership**  
THE Pakistan Arts Circle (veterans) have launched a membership campaign. All Pakistanis are welcome. Membership forms available from PAC. For details contact A S Qureshi (5716388); A S Ghazali (5631815); N Khan (4843578); Z Butt (2414570).

**June 4: LIL will hold Latino programme:** Regency Palace Hotel; 8 pm sharp; doors open: 6 pm; close: 7.45 pm. No one will be allowed to enter after programme begins. Door charge. Extravaganza features performers from Columbia, Bolivia, Argentina and other Latin countries.

**Kuwait Players AGM**  
JUNE 4: Kuwait Players annual general meeting: 8 pm, Al Foz, Messilah Beach Hotel.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

### KTV 1

9.30 Holy Quran  
9.40 Good Morning  
9.50 Kaola: cartoons  
10.10 News Summary  
10.15 World News via Satellite (repeat)  
10.30 Wahat Nazar: Arabic serial; part 5  
11.25 Good Morning: variety  
12.00 Archive Zaman: documentary  
12.30 News summary  
12.35 Closedown

### Evening

4.00 Holy Quran  
4.15 World News via Satellite  
4.30 Sally: cartoon serial  
5.00 Tomorrow's World: documentary  
6.00 Ayyam Al Ramad: Arabic serial; ep. 13  
7.00 Songs  
7.25 "Haroon": cultural programme  
8.15 Songs  
8.30 Good Evening: magazine show  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.45 Muzzakatat Zawj: Arabic serial  
10.30 Al Naar Wal Firqa: Arabic Serial, featuring Talhat Hamdi, Samir Sami, Abdul Hadi Al Sabagh  
12.15 News Summary  
12.20 World News via Satellite  
12.35 Holy Quran/Closedown

### KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 The Lone Ranger  
6.30 The New Mickey Mouse Club: A variety



Simone stars in Muzzakatat Zawj, KTV1.

show for young viewers from Disney. 7.00 Quran and Science: Various aspects of science and their reference in the Quran are examined in this programme.

7.30 Kate and Allie: on the sets. Comedy.

8.00 News in English  
8.30 You and the Law: Prepared by the Ministry of Interior, presented by Ali Noor. Focus on local laws.

8.50 Bordertown: "Slave". This serial continues with the story of a small town. Tonight, a businessman visits a slave farm.

9.15 Horizon: "Catch A Falling Star". A survey of astronomy in Cambridge, Oxford

and Europe. Documentary

10.00 Murphy Brown: "Soul Man". Murphy plans to visit a male-only club. Comedy.

10.30 Wolf: Tony's friend has been murdered and the former policeman is charged with the crime. Is he innocent. Action.

11.30 News in Brief  
11.40 Magazine: D'Actualite/Closedown

### Sports Channel

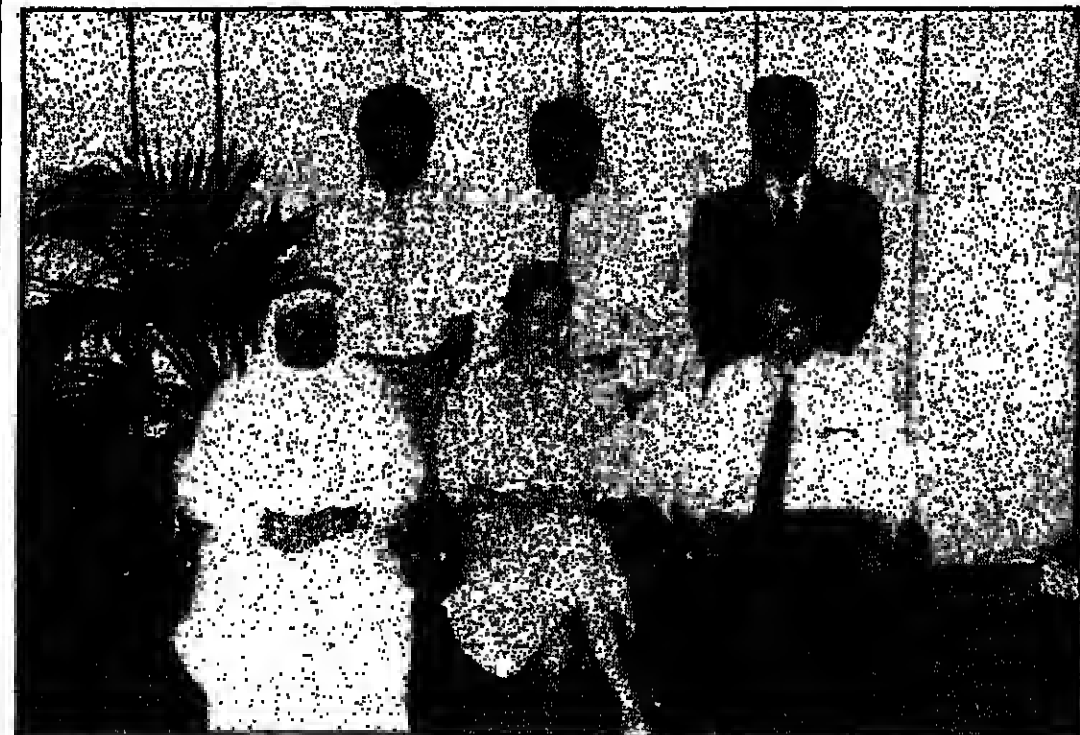
4.55 Handball match: local, live broadcast.

Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

**Al Andalus**  
Hanafi Al Ubbahah (Arabic)  
Starring: Adel Imam, Huda Ramzi, Farouk Fishawi  
**Al Sahmiya**  
Al Raqassah Wal Siyasi (Arabic)  
Starring: Nahila Obaid, Salah Qabil  
**Al Hamra**  
Hanafi Al Ubbahah (Arabic)

**Drive-In**  
Al Raqassah Wal Siyasi (Arabic)  
Al Firdous  
Qatil (Hindi)  
Starring: Aditya Pancholi, Sangeeta Bhatnagar  
**Fahad Open Air**  
Commando (Hindi)  
Al Fahad  
Mog Busters

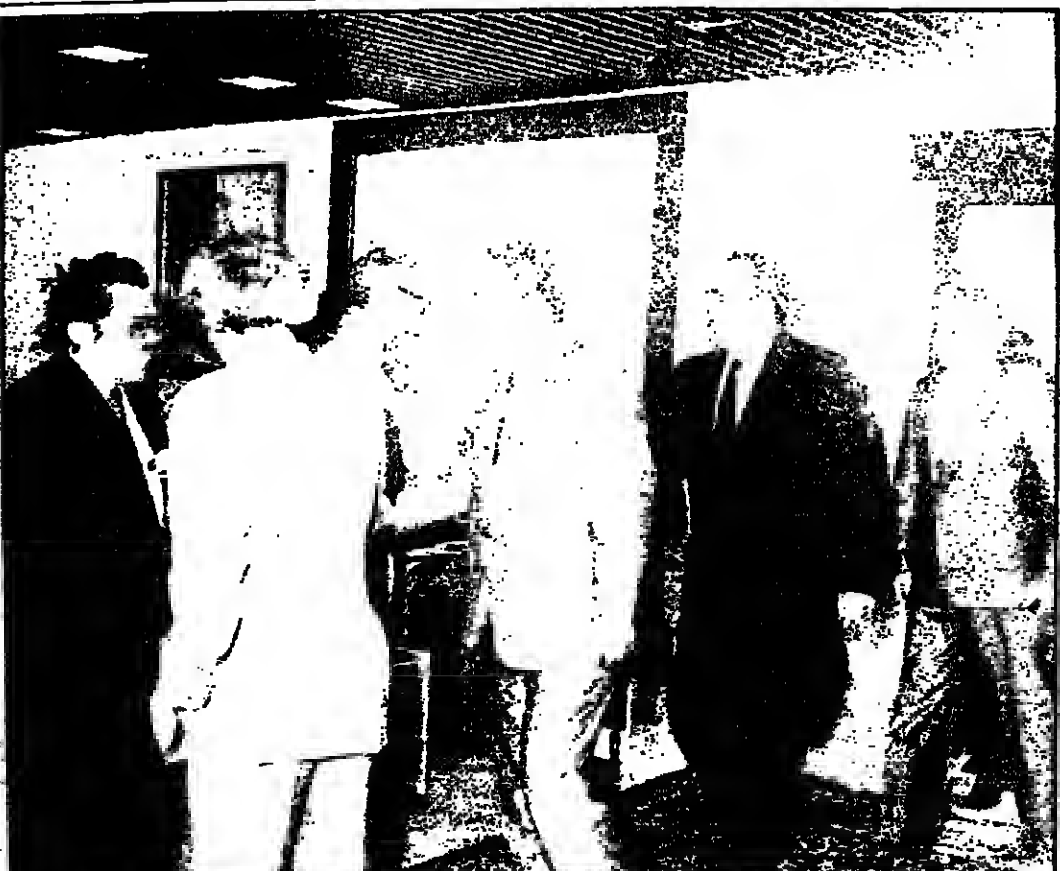
**Al Jahra**  
Bara Bhai (Bengali)  
Granada  
Carnival (Malayalam)  
Salaikhah  
Eat The Rich  
Al Jeeb  
Takkar (Bengali)  
Ahmadi Drive-In  
Al Raqassah Wal Siyasi (Arabic)



The 'Team of five' all set to go to the AlphaGraphics Printshop of the Future headquartered in Tucson, Arizona, USA. The team will attend an intensive two month practical training programme which will prepare them to open the Middle East's first electronic graphic printshop in Bahrain. Above: (Standing) Maitam Ali Salman, (centre) Arthur D'Souza, Mohammed Abdul Kader Ahmed. (Sitting), Right: Hadi Al Alawi, Cynthia Herbert, Hussain Al Alawi.

### PRAYERS

Fajr	3.17 am
Zuhr	11.45
Asr	3.20 pm
Maghreb	6.41
Isha	8.11



Kuwait's Foreign Ministry hosted a reception to say goodbye to outgoing Indonesian Ambassador Djameluddin Joeda, who is leaving Kuwait shortly. Picture shows Joeda (right) receiving some of the ambassadors who attended the farewell reception.



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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**SALMIYA**, behind Amman Street, walking distance from Pakistani School, Rumathiya. 2 rooms for a small family or bachelors with tele facilities. Tel: 5634235 after 1 pm.  
(AT4-52866-3)

**FARWANIYA**, behind Holiday Inn, very close to main road. Sharing accommodation, furnished with all facilities including tele, preferably for a small Indian/Malaysian Muslim family. Tel: Res. 4745758, after 4.00 pm.  
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**SALMIYA**, near KG/Indian School. One room with tele facilities for Indian bachelors/couples to share with an Indian family. Rent KD65. Tel: Mr Sharma, 5611539, 10 am - 12 noon, 4 - 8 pm.  
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(AT2-52836-3)

### NAME CHANGE

**I, THERESA Frederick Peters**, holder of Indian passport No. R340122 embraced Islam and changed my name to Fatima.  
(AT2-52831-3)

**I, Sinna Rawther Mohamed Kassim Mohamed Jackiya**, holder of Indian passport No. X172790, issued in Kuwait on 10.4.85, would like to change my name to Mohamed Zakaria Mohamed Kassim.  
(AT4-52843-3)

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**LOVELY** 9 months old female beagle for sale. Pure breed AKC registered available. House broken, complete with training book & accessories. Leave your message on a machine 5338988.  
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**TARIQ** Jamil Muhammad Ismail, Pakistani has lost passport No. D837757 and Pakistani L.T.V. driving licence. Finder please Tel. 4843707, 4845187.  
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## Braves outclass Phillies

PHILADELPHIA, May 28. (AP) John Smoltz was two outs away from Atlanta's first no-hitter in 17 years when Len Dykstra doubled to right field as the Braves beat the Philadelphia Phillies 6-1 in an National League baseball game yesterday.

After Ricky Jordan struck out leading off the ninth, Dykstra ripped a 1-0 pitch down the line. One out later, Von Hayes singled to right to spoil the shutout bid. Smoltz got Rod Booker on a grounder to short to end the game and finished with a two-hitter.

Smoltz entered the game having allowed 49 hits and 31 runs in 46 innings for a 5.48 earned-run average.

The last Atlanta pitcher to toss a no-hitter was Phil Niekro on Aug. 5, 1973 against San Diego. Pirates 5, Giants 2.

Don Slaught and Barry Bonds homered in Pittsburgh's three-run fifth inning, and Neal Heaton improved to 8-1 as the Pirates beat San Francisco.

Andy Van Slyke went 3-for-4 and hit a solo homer in the seventh inning for Pittsburgh's fourth run as former Pirate Rick Reuschel (2-6) remained winless against Pittsburgh since August 1980.

The Pirates, who won twice in the three-game series after losing eight of their previous 10, are 5-1 against the Giants this season. Padres 8, Mets 4.

Joe Carter ended a slump with a homer and four RBIs and Phil Stephenson hit a three-run triple in San Diego's six-run eighth inning, boosting the Padres to a brawl-marred victory over New York.

Carter, who entered the game with only one hit in his previous 19 at-bats, also had two singles as the Padres dropped Dwight Gooden to 3-4.

Ed Whitson (4-3) worked seven innings for San Diego, giving up six hits and two runs.

In the bottom of the eighth, Padres reliever Greg Harris hit Kevin Elster in the back with a pitch, touching off a bench-clearing brawl. Elster charged the mound as the beesches and bullpens of both teams emptied onto the field. Elster was ejected.

### Expos 5, Reds 3

Andres Galarraga and Tim Lincecum homered as Montreal rallied to beat Cincinnati. The Reds, who blew a 3-0 lead, were attempting to sweep a four-game series in Montreal for the first time since the Expos entered the League in 1969.

The game was only the second in 25 this season that the Reds have lost after scoring first.

Galarraga's homer, his fourth, came against Tim Lincecum (1-2) in the fifth inning and broke a 3-3 tie after Birtas had bailed Reds starter Jose Rijo out of bases-loaded jam in the fourth.

### Standings

American League			
Chicago	10	Detroit	4
Oakland	6	Cleveland	3
Minnesota	6	Boston	5
Kansas City	9	New York	4
Baltimore	7	Texas	5
California	10	Milwaukee	3
Toronto	11	Seattle	4
National League			
Houston	8	Chicago	1
Houston	12	Chicago	3
Cincinnati	5	Montreal	3
New York	11	San Diego	0
Pittsburgh	10	San Francisco	4
Los Angeles	8	St. Louis	0
Atlanta	12	Philadelphia	3

## Rahal second, Fittipaldi third Luyendyk wins Indy 500



Arie Luyendyk drinks the traditional bottle of milk after his victory. (Reuters wirephoto)



Fittipaldi's Tero Palmroth sits in his car as he makes a pit stop during the Indy 500. (Reuters wirephoto)

INDIANAPOLIS, May 28. (UPI) Dutchman Arie Luyendyk won the 74th running of the Indianapolis 500 yesterday, beating 1986 winner Bobby Rahal to the finish line in the fastest Indy 500 ever.

Driving a Lola-Chevrolet, Luyendyk's average speed of 185.984 mph (299.312 kph) topped Rahal's 1986 record of 170.722 mph (274.750 kph) and made Luyendyk the first driver to earn his first Indy car win at Indianapolis since Graham Hill in 1962. He completed the 200-lap race in 2 hours 41 minutes and 18.248 seconds.

Rahal finished second, 10.7 seconds behind in a Lola-Chevrolet, followed by defending champion and pole-sitter Emerson Fittipaldi in a Penske-Chevrolet. In fourth place, one lap down was Al Unser Jr. in a Lola-Chevrolet, followed by three-time winner Rick Mears, four-time champ A.J. Foyt, Scott Brayton, rookie Eddie Cheever, Kevin Cogan and rookie Scott Goodyear.

The best previous finish for Luyendyk, racing in the 76th Indy car race of his career, was a second in 1983 at Portland, and his best previous finish at Indianapolis came in his rookie year of 1985 when he finished seventh.

Luyendyk, 36, who started on the outside of the front row, ran with the leaders all day and moved into first place when he passed Rahal low in turn three with 32 laps remaining with Rahal in the pits. Luyendyk made a pit stop five laps later and kept his lead. He had led previously on laps 93 and 94.

With 50 miles (80.46 km), Luyendyk held a 1.1 second lead over Rahal and increased the margin to 4.5 seconds in the next three laps. With 12 laps to go, his lead was 8.5 seconds and with 25 miles (40.23 km) left he pushed the advantage to 11 seconds.

At that point, the only suspense was whether Luyendyk would make it to the finish without re-fuelling, but he made it easily.

Luyendyk's purse will not be announced until this evening. Fittipaldi, who won last year, earned more than \$1 million.

For most of the race, it looked like Fittipaldi, who qualified at a

record 225.301 mph (362.586 kph), would defend his title.

At the halfway point of the race, Fittipaldi was more than 15 seconds ahead of Unser Jr. and Rahal, with Luyendyk running fourth. Unser Jr. slowed shortly after that, falling a lap behind when he went into the pits on lap 115.

After a series of pit stops allowed Rahal and Luyendyk to lead briefly, Fittipaldi took the lead back on lap 123 and had a comfortable lead on Rahal and Luyendyk. Unser Jr. was in fourth place but back on the lead lap.

Track conditions were taking a toll on tyres, with many drivers, including Fittipaldi, experiencing blisters on their right rear tyres. Fittipaldi stopped for fuel and tyres on lap 135, giving the lead in Rahal.

A spin by John Andretti on lap 140 brought on a caution period that allowed Rahal to pit and hold the lead. Luyendyk was second, Fittipaldi third and Unser Jr. fourth, the only cars on the lead lap.

Rahal led when the caution period ended on lap 145. Last year's runner-up, Unser Jr., who had been plagued by earlier problems, began to move on the leader. Fittipaldi fell behind on an unscheduled pit stop on lap 153 because of tyre problems, and Rahal passed him to leave just three cars on the lead lap: Rahal, Luyendyk and Unser Jr.

Unser Jr.'s pit stop on lap 158 left Rahal and Luyendyk alone on the lead lap and the Dutchman, hiding for his first-ever Indy car victory, started to reel in the two-time Indy car champion.

At that point, Luyendyk turned in a 222-mph (357.274-kph) lap, while Rahal was running in the 217-mph (349.227-kph) range. The move Luyendyk made to get around Rahal was a smooth, clean one.

Danny Sullivan hit the wall on lap 20 to draw the day's first yellow flag. Sullivan, the 1985 winner, had a wheel bearing explode on the right rear wheel, spun and hit the wall between turns one and two. The Roger Penske driver was taken to Methodist Hospital for tests and released.

## Elliott runs fast mile

LONDON, May 28. (UPI) Britain's 1,500 metres Olympic silver medalist Peter Elliott maintained his impressive early-season form by running the fastest one mile in the world this season at Battersea Park yesterday.

The 27-year-old Commonwealth Games champion, having his first race as a full-time athlete after giving up his part-time job in a steel works, outpaced a quality field to clock 3 minutes 51.80 seconds.

Seven other men broke the four-minute barrier in the first of this year's General Portfolio Grand Prix Series, but it was Elliott who stole the show and fired a warning in the rest of the world's top middle distance runners.

He followed up a fast 800 metres win in Santander, Spain, and a Yorkshire

Championship 1,500 metres victory, with a decisive burst 500 yards out which took him clear of European bronze medalist Tony Morrell (3:32.82) and United Kingdom champion Steve Crabbe (3:33.32).

"It was encouraging to run so fast so early and in such a good quality field," Elliott said. "I honestly didn't think I had gone that fast. I would have settled for a win in somewhere around 3:55."

"Everyone seems to be thinking and suggesting I'm peaking too early, but I know what I am doing."

Now Elliott is looking to capture the European title in Yugoslavia in September and plans world record attempts at 1,500 metres and one mile during this summer's Grand Prix programme.



Peter Elliott

### Motorcycle

## Strijbos in hospital with concussion

DALECIN, Czechoslovakia. (Reuters) Dutchman Dave Strijbos was taken to hospital suffering from concussion and broken ribs after crashing during the Czechoslovak 250cc Motorcycle Grand Prix yesterday, the Czech news agency reported.

Strijbos, who was unconscious for some time after his fall in which no other rider was involved, was taken by ambulance to a hospital in Nove Mesto Na Morave.

The incident happened after four laps of the second race, which was abandoned. International Motorcycling Federation rules do not allow a restart after the completion of one lap, and no points were awarded.

Strijbos, on a Kawasaki, had won the first race to inflict only the second defeat of the year on runaway championship leader Alessandro Puzos of Italy, who leads the second-placed Dutchman by 67 points.

Injuries also hit other championship contenders, including Italian Michele Fantoni, fourth in the standings, who did not take part in the second race due to an eye injury.

### Defeat

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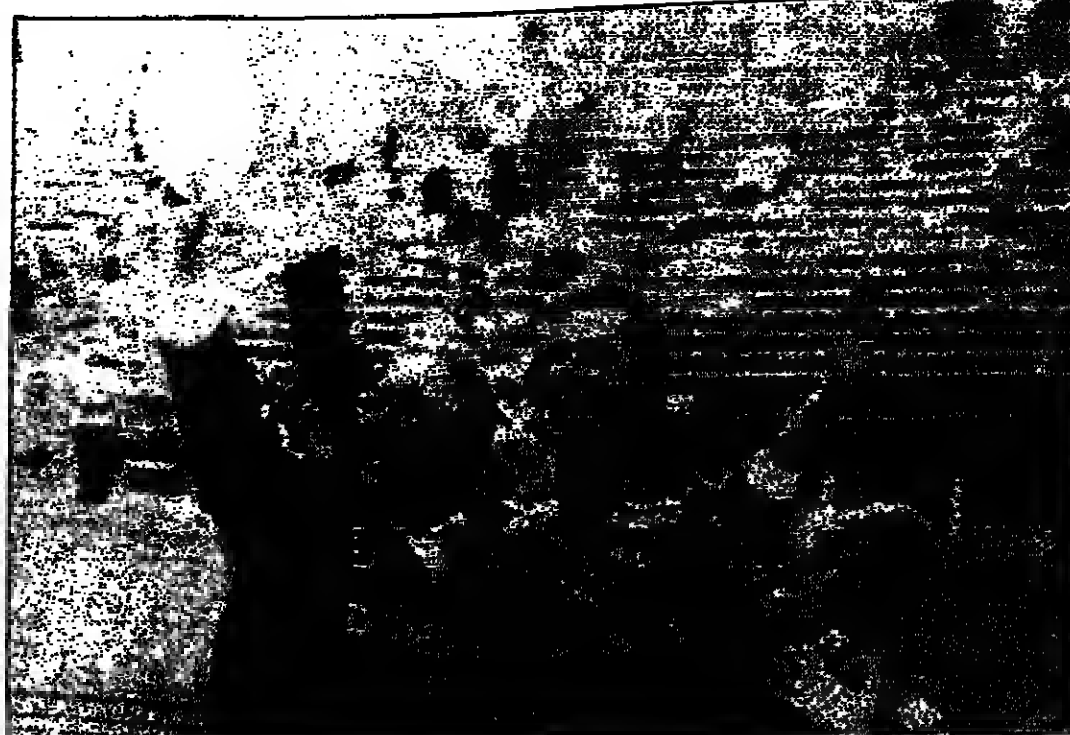
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### West German GP

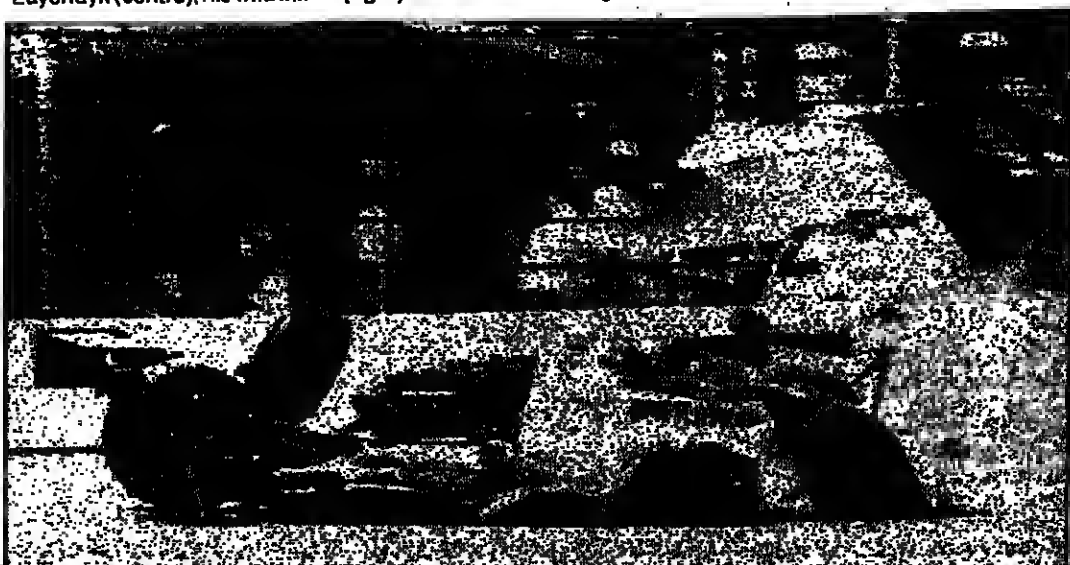
American Kevin Schwartz in action on his way to victory in the West German motorcycle Grand Prix in Nuerburgring on Sunday (Reuters wirephoto)



American Kevin Schwartz in action on his way to victory in the West German motorcycle Grand Prix in Nuerburgring on Sunday (Reuters wirephoto)



Luyendyk (centre), his wife Miaka (right) and car owner Doug Shierson wave to the fans. (Reuters wirephoto)



Danny Sullivan crashes into the wall on the first turn. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Sherbo takes 3 golds

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, May 28. (Reuters) Soviet newcomer Vitaly Sherbo claimed three gold medals on the final day of the European Gymnastics Championships yesterday, cheekily upstaging the overall victory of compatriot Valentin Mogilya.

Competing in his first European Championships, 18-year-old Sherbo easily clinched the vault, where he had led after Saturday's overall event, and came from behind to win the high bar and floor exercise.

But Mogilya, who won the overall championship on Saturday, held his lead on the pommel horse to retain the title he won in Stockholm last year.

Mogilya also tied for the parallel bars gold with Daniel Giubellini, who delighted the home crowd with Switzerland's first European title in 21 years. Another Swiss, Rene Floss, claimed silver in the high bar.

Sergei Kharkov, the third member of the Soviet team, who had been hotly favoured for at least one gold, had to be content with a silver in the floor exercise and bronze on the pommel horse.

There was consolation for some less fancied countries as Alojz Kolman, with bronze on the high bar, won Yugoslavia their first European medal since 1959. Neil Thomas' bronze in the vault was Britain's first medal for 33 years.



Sherbo performs on the pommel horse. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Theakston wins prologue

PENZANCE, England, May 28. (AP) Cayan Theakston overcame a late start to win the prologue of the 16-day Milk Race cycling event by more than five seconds yesterday, beating fellow Briton Joey McLoughlin.

Theakston, who missed the 1989 cycling season because of a calf injury, finished the 5.4 mile (8.7 kilometre) time trial in 12 minutes, 1.7 seconds.

The Briton, who competes for the Tulip Computers Team of Belgium, was two seconds late starting and his foot slipped from a pedal as he left the starting ramp. But he had the fastest time by the halfway mark and maintained his quick pace until the end.

McLoughlin, the 1986 Milk Race winner, was second in 12:07.1

## Gonzales stable after being shot

HOUSTON, Texas, May 28. (AP) David Gonzales of Houston, the World Boxing Council's sixth-ranked lightweight, was in stable condition yesterday after being shot in the back outside a lounge, authorities said.

Gonzales, whose record is 23-1-1, was to fight Darryl Tyson of Fort Worth on June 11 for the North American Boxing Federation championship. Tyson is ranked fourth in the world by the World Boxing Council.

Police said Gonzales and an unidentified man fled after a companion, Miguel Angel Martinez, 25, was shot and killed outside the lounge about 1:30 am Saturday (0530 GMT). Gonzales was shot in the back and the other man was shot at, but not injured, officials said.

Gonzales was taken to Ben Taub Hospital following the shooting.

The three apparently had walked to the parking lot in back of the club, where two men confronted them, police said. One placed a small handgun on Martinez's chest and fired. Then the two left in a small white Ford.

Police said a pool game a week ago between some of the men at the same lounge triggered the dispute. Police said Martinez was out at the pool game.

In 1988, lightweight Rico Velasquez died after being stopped in the eighth round of a fight for the California lightweight title against Gonzales, who then lived in San Jose. Velasquez never regained consciousness after being knocked out in the eighth round.

## Steinlager II to be sold

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, May 28. (AP) Steinlager II, which this week won the Whitbread Round-the-World yacht race, is expected to be sold to an Italian buyer for over \$2 million, the New Zealand Press Association reported yesterday.

The red-hulled maxi ketch, skippered by Peter Blake, won all six legs of the race. Steinlager challenge manager Martyn Ford said only paperwork remained to complete the sale.

The boat was scheduled to leave Southampton, where the race concluded, late yesterday. It will be transported to St Katherine's dock in London, where it will stay until next month's award ceremony.

"Regardless of Steinlager's sale, the crew will receive a bonus I consider exceptionally generous," Ford said.

Fisher and Paykel, the New Zealand yacht which finished second in the race, was also recently sold to an Italian buyer for an undisclosed amount.

No further details on the sale were immediately available.

## Senna, Berger keep McLaren on top



Senna raises his trophy. (Reuters wirephoto)

MONTE CARLO, May 28. (Reuters) Ayrton Senna and his McLaren team mate Gerhard Berger proved yesterday that reliability remains the most valuable but elusive quality in Formula One motor racing as they finished first and third in the Monaco Grand Prix.

Their joint success established them in first and second positions in the drivers' championship and gave McLaren a 20-point lead over Williams in the constructors' championship. Ferrari are third a further three points back.

Senna's victory, the 22nd of his career and his third in four years on the punishing Monte Carlo street circuit, proved his motivation remains high and also showed that McLaren are still the dominant team despite the recent triumphs of Ferrari and Williams in Brazil and San Marino.

McLaren were the only team which managed to get two cars to finish among the six still running at the end of the 78-lap race and the failures of their main rivals Ferrari, Benetton and Williams suggest they have some way to go before they can realistically challenge McLaren for the title.

Both Ferraris were forced to retire with electronic failures related to the team's semi-automatic gearbox, the two Benetons suffered a blown engine and a disqualification and Williams produced one finisher — Thierry Boutsen in fourth place — while a misfire in his Renault engine accounted for Riccardo Patrese.

After suggestions that their ascendancy in performance was on the wane this season, it was a triumphant return to form for the McLaren team, particularly as Berger was forced to drive the team's spare car, set up for Senna, after colliding with Prost on the first lap of the original race.

The race was halted and re-started and McLaren team manager Ron Dennis was full of praise for both of his drivers' efforts afterwards.

"We ran a tactical race," he said. "But Ayrton was in full command throughout. Gerhard had to switch to the spare car which was set up for Ayrton and we were able to make only a few changes before he took over. Under the difficult circumstances I think Gerhard put in a superb performance."

The only reason McLaren were not able to repeat the dominant one-two finish they achieved in 1989 was an equally excellent bullish drive by Frenchman Jean Alesi in a Tyrrell-Ford.

Alesi, driving in a Monaco Grand Prix for the first time, finished second for the second time in four races this season and proved his own street-fighting prowess.

"I feel very happy about this result especially because it is in Monaco," he said. "This may be my first race here, but I have been coming for years to watch from the sidelines."



## Murray announces 1992 America's Cup bid

SYDNEY, May 28 (Reuters): Australian yachtsman Iain Murray today announced a last-minute challenge for the 1992 America's Cup.

The challenge led by Murray, skipper of Kookaburra III in the 1986-7 America's Cup, was launched in an unfinished museum serving as the clubhouse for Sydney's new Darling Harbour Yacht Club, which was created especially for the Cup bid.

Murray looked ill at ease and was light on details as he explained to journalists how he planned to mount his challenge in the yachting series off San Diego in May, 1992.

"My decision to pursue this means I am very confident that we can put forward a very competent challenge," Murray said. "The challenge has developed rapidly in the last two weeks

and we have a very new yacht club."

Murray, sitting in the echoing entry hall of the National Maritime Museum at Darling Harbour, was often drowned out by the drills of workmen who are also struggling to meet a deadline. A newly painted sign "Darling Harbour Yacht Club" was nailed to the door of the museum.

Murray said he would need 15 million dollars (\$11.25 million) over the next two

years. He said he had already secured sufficient funds for his present needs and indicated he would rely partly on public subscriptions for his finances.

"Having established the new Darling Harbour Yacht Club, the next step will be to attract sponsorships and the support of the Australian public, which is essential to this challenge," said an accompanying press release.

### Hockey

## Cosmos edge Unity for finals

RESORTING to defensive tactics, Cosmos clung on to a slender first-half goal advantage in dethroning last year's champions Unity, in the semifinals of the Champions Trophy at the Ahmadu Bello Grounds on Friday.

A defensive lapse by Unity's Ashraf, in the form of an incorrect clearance, saw the ball travel to the unmarked Tommy whose crisp shot was again deflected by Ashraf in to the Unity goal, catching goalkeeper Tony unaware.

Though Unity enjoyed most of the possession of the ball, they could not co-ordinate any of their moves. On the other hand, the Cosmos' defence should be applauded for staunchly defending their citadel, and time and again foiling the Unity moves.

Cosmos, left-half Rosario was outstanding in the midfield. His display of offensive and defensive tactics was a treat to watch, and though he generated some good moves he could not get the required support to score.

Midway through the second half, Unity's captain Afra Lopez picked up the ball in his half, dribbled past an array of Cosmos' defenders and ended up with a penalty corner which was wasted.

Unity kept on pressing for the equaliser but in vain as Cosmos zipped up their defence and defended bravely to emerge victorious by a solitary goal. Cosmos meet Flying Arrows in the finals to be scheduled at a later date.

Game scheduled for Friday: 4.30 pm Sharma Trophy finals, Unity vs Cosmos.

## Six players still missing

ANKARA, May 28 (Reuters): Six foreign handball players and a Turk were missing believed drowned after their boat capsized yesterday. Anatolian news agency said today.

Three Algerian, two Soviet Azerbaijani and an Iraqi athlete heading for a picnic on the shores of the Bosphorus after an international handball tournament in Istanbul were believed to have died. It quoted Communications Ministry undersecretary Ertan Yulek as saying.

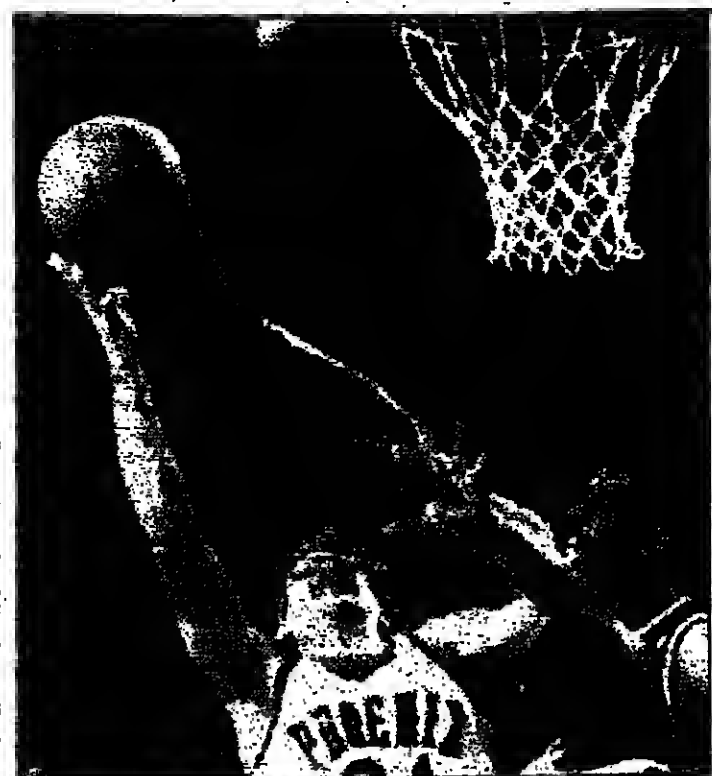
One Algerian player died in hospital of head injuries and 10 people were slightly injured in the accident but most of the passengers were rescued by fishing boats or swam ashore.

Istanbul public prosecutor Orhan Zeybek had said yesterday that all 65 passengers had been accounted for.

Coast guard vessels and divers searched for bodies today about 150 metres off Istanbul's Sarayburnu shore.

## Suns burn Trail Blazers

### Johnson scores 28 points



Suns' Kurt Rambis (left) has his shot blocked by Trail Blazers' Wayne Cooper. (Reuters wirephoto)

PHOENIX, May 28 (AP): Kevin Johnson had 28 points and 17 assists and Phoenix's bench outscored Portland's 31-10 as the Suns beat the Trail Blazers 119-107 yesterday, tying their Western Conference championship series 2-2.

Game 5 in the best-of-7 series is tomorrow night at Portland's Memorial Coliseum, where the Suns have lost 19 in a row since April 26, 1984. In game 2 at Portland, Phoenix blew a 22-point lead.

Phoenix is trying to become only the fifth team in NBA history to come back from a 2-0 deficit and win a seven-game playoff series. Portland was the last team to do it, against Philadelphia when the Trail Blazers won their only NBA title in 1977.

Tom Chambers scored 27 points for Phoenix, while Jerome Kersey paced Portland with 29 points — matching his career playoff high set in game 2 — and Terry Porter had 21.

Clyde Drexler, who picked up his fifth personal foul with 4:07 left in the third period, finished with 15 points. He had 20 points in each of the Trail Blazers' first

two victories.

Chambers scored 18 first-half points and Phoenix closed out the second period with an 11-3 run for a 56-50 lead.

Johnson hit two jumpers and four free throws in a 3:25 span to put the Suns up 81-73 with 2:06 remaining in the third quarter.

Portland missed eight of its 12 free throws in the period and trailed 89-76 entering the fourth quarter.

Jeff Hornacek's 3-point goal with 7:25 to play capped an 11-3 spurt for a 100-81 bulge, the Suns' largest of the game.

The Trail Blazers, trailing 103-86 with 5:25 left, closed to 111-101 on Kersey's steal and stuff with 3:01 remaining.

But Chambers hit a jumper 16 seconds later and Johnson made three jumpers down the stretch to seal the victory.

Dan Majerle added 18 points, Hornacek 16 and Mark West 12 points and 12 rebounds for the Suns.

Chambers made 10 of his 17 field goals while Johnson, who had 17 second-half points, hit 12 points and combined with Majerle for the Suns' lopsided advantage in scoring off the bench.

## Morris hits Notts for 103

LONDON, May 28 (Reuters): John Morris scored his third first-class century in five innings to earn Derbyshire a 52-run first innings lead against neighbours Nottinghamshire in a top-of-the-table English County Championship cricket match yesterday.

Morris batted with rare authority on a pitch which offered plenty of help to the quicker bowlers as he compiled 103 in 150 minutes to help Derbyshire, a point behind leaders Nottinghamshire, reach 274.

Former England batsman Chris Broad hit a half century to lift Nottinghamshire to 143 for four in their second innings to give them a 91-run lead with a day remaining.

Temper flared during two incidents in the final session of the match, the only championship game being played yesterday.

There were angry exchanges between Derbyshire fielders and batsman Derek Randall when an umpire rejected appeals for a catch, and Broad made a gesture to the jeering Derby crowd after becoming visibly upset at being given out leg before wicket.

In the one-day Sunday League competition, brothers Chris and Graham Cowdrey put Kent top of the table with an unbeaten 115-run fourth wicket stand against Northamptonshire. Graham Cowdrey scored 70



John Morris

and Chris 45 to help Kent reach 287 for three, three runs short of their best score in the 40-over competition.

Former England player Chris Cowdrey then took four wickets for 57 as Northamptonshire were dismissed for 232 in their ninth successive defeat in all competitions this season.

Middlesex moved into joint second place with a seven-wicket win over Gloucestershire at Lord's thanks to 88 from Mark Ramprakash and a half century from West Indian Desmond Haynes which saw them overhaul the 201-run target with 14 balls spare.

Lancashire, last season's League champions, joined Middlesex in second place with a four-wicket victory over



Chris Broad

Glamorgan for whom Matthew Maynard (100) and West Indies captain Viv Richards (77) shared a 143-run partnership.

### Standings

Sunday League cricket table after the latest round of matches (tablets under played, won, lost, ties, no result, points):

Kent	6	3	1	0	0	20
Derbyshire	5	4	1	0	0	16
Lancashire	5	4	1	0	0	16
Middlesex	5	4	1	0	0	16
Notts	5	3	2	0	0	12
Warwickshire	4	3	1	0	0	12
Gloucester	4	3	1	0	0	12
Glamorgan	4	2	2	0	0	8
Sussex	4	2	2	0	0	8
Worcester	4	2	2	0	0	8
Leicestershire	4	2	2	0	0	8
Leicester	4	1	4	0	0	4
Northants	4	1	3	0	0	4
Yorkshire	3	1	4	0	0	4
Essex	3	1	3	0	0	4
Surrey	3	0	3	0	0	0

## Crowe makes his mark, Kiwis declare

HOVE, England, May 28 (Reuters): Martin Crowe literally made his mark on the scoreboard yesterday as New Zealand declared 70 runs behind Sussex on the second day of their three-day cricket match.

Crowe hit a delivery from leg-spinner Ian Salisbury with such force that as the ball flew for six it

crashed into his own score indicator and dislodged one of the figures.

The New Zealand vice-captain continued his hard-hitting form to notch 65 off 61 balls, including 11 fours.

The injury-hit visitors, confidently chasing Sussex's splendid first innings score of 300 for

four declared, settled in mid-afternoon for a declaration on 230 for five.

Sussex were 144 for two in their second innings at the close. New Zealand, 22 for one overnight, were lifted by a second wicket stand of 114 between

nightwatchman Mark Priest, their left-arm spin bowling all-rounder, and Jeff Crowe (48).

Priest, who collected nine boundaries in making 72, could take the number six spot in next week's first Test against England at Nottingham if Ken Rutherford fails to recover his form after being hit on the head during the one-day international at the Oval on Friday.

New Zealand's main priority is to overcome a severe injury crisis involving their attack. Pace bowlers Danny Morrison and Shane Thomson are suffering abdominal and thigh strains respectively, in addition to Richard Hadlee nursing a broken bone in his right hand.

With three-day matches against Warwickshire and Derbyshire due before the Test on Thursday week, the touring team is considering calling up a second stand-in following the recruitment of paceman Chris Pringle. ■ New Zealand have called up Willie Watson as their second stand-in pace bowler to help them through their cricket tour injury crisis.

Watson will join the New Zealanders tomorrow and is lik-

ely to play in the three-day match against Warwickshire at Edgbaston the following day.

"Willie will join us on a match-by-match basis," said manager Ian Taylor yesterday, the second day of the touring side's three-day game here against Sussex.

Watson played two Tests on New Zealand's 1986 tour of England but has since added only one more cap, against Australia in Perth, last November.

**Scoreboard**  
SUSSEX first innings 300 for four declared (A. Hall 120 not out, A. Wells 86, N. Lenham 64)

NEW ZEALAND first innings overnight 22 for one

J. Crowe b Salisbury ..... 65  
M. Priest c Morrison b Donelan ..... 72  
M. Greatbatch c C. Wells b Bunting ..... 52  
M. Crowe c Donelan b Babbington ..... 85  
J. Wright not out ..... 10  
S. Thomson not out ..... 3  
Extras (b-3 lb-1 nb-2) ..... 6  
Total (for five wickets, declared) 230  
Fall of wickets: 1-0-2-114-3-139  
4-195-228

Did not bat: J. Bracewell, A. Parore, C. Pringle, D. Morrison  
Bowling: Donelan 14-2-56-1, Bunting 14-3-42-1, C. Wells 5-1-22-0, Babbington 9-0-36-1, Salisbury 16-2-55-1, Donelan 9-3-15-1  
SUSSEX second innings  
N. Lenham c Parore b Pringle ..... 6  
J. Hall run out ..... 40  
T. Dodemaide not out ..... 32  
C. Wells not out ..... 45  
Extras (lb-1) ..... 1  
Total (for two wickets) 144  
Fall of wickets: 1-12-2-82  
Bowling (to date): Pringle 13-4-37-1, Bracewell 20-2-70-0, M. Crowe 3-2-4-0, Priest 11-3-32-0

## Sweden rout Finland in Cup warmup

STOCKHOLM, May 28 (Reuters): Midfielder Anders Limpar scored one goal and laid on three more as Sweden hammered Finland 6-0 in a dazzling dress rehearsal for the World Cup soccer finals yesterday.

Sweden, leading 1-0 at half-time, destroyed the Finns with four goals in a seven-minute burst early in the second half in their final warm-up game before meeting Brazil in their first World Cup clash.

Limpar, who plays for Cremonese in Italy, set up Benfica striker Mats Magnusson for the first goal in the fourth minute, and opened the floodgates when he scored in the 57th.

He created the openings for striker Tomas Brodin to score twice, in the 59th and 61st minutes, and was also involved in the build-up which led to a penalty, converted by Ajax defender Peter Larsson in the 64th.

Benfica midfielder Jonas Thern, playing his first international this year after a three-month groin injury, completed the rout 10 minutes later.

Sweden manager Olof Nordin, whose side's opening World Cup match is in Turin on June 10, could not hide his satisfaction.

"Limpar was brilliant today, and the whole team played in a very relaxed manner and completely according to my tactical guidelines," said Nordin.

He said he was particularly pleased about the appetite of his strikers who had suffered a long drought broken only when Brodin struck in his national debut last month in a 4-2 victory over Wales.

"Everything looks fine. We have no special worries, no special details to polish," said Nordin.

### Teams:

Sweden — Thomas Ravelli; Roland Nilsson (Niclas Nyhlen, 63rd), Peter Larsson, Roger Ljung, Stefan Schwarz, Anders Limpar, Jonas Thern, Klas Ingesson (Glenn Stromberg, 72nd), Joakim Nilsson; Tomas Brodin (Johnny Ekstrom, 67th), Mats Magnusson (Stefan Pettersson, 67th).

Finland — Kari Laukkanen; Jouko Vuorela, Hannu Jantti (Markku Kanerva, 35th), Erik Holmgren, Ari Heikkinen, Erkki Petaja, Kimmo Tarkkio, Anders Roth (Tommi Paavola, 58th), Pasi Tauriainen; Ari Hjelme, Mika-Matti Paatelainen.

## South Korea name World Cup squad

SEOUL, May 28 (Reuters): South Korea today named its squad of 22 players for the World Cup soccer finals in Italy, which start next month.

The team is a mixture of seasoned professionals, including striker Choi Soon-Ho and veteran captain Chung Yong-Hwan who led the South Korean side during the 1986 finals in Mexico, and a number of promising youngsters.

Team coach Lee Hoe-Taik told reporters last week the squad would be defense-oriented, using a 4-4-2 playing formation, and would aim for quick

counter attacks.

Lee dropped Song Young-Rok, a 29-year-old defender, in favour of Cho Min-Kook, a tough stopper and good header who recovered recently from a leg injury.

South Korea, the first Asian nation to qualify for two successive World Cup finals, is generally regarded as much weaker than its Group E rivals Belgium, Spain and Uruguay.

The team is due to leave for Italy on June 5.

## Portuguese Cup

LISBON, May 28 (Reuters):

Farense's hopes of becoming the first Second Division soccer side to win the Portuguese Cup were put back for another week after they drew 1-1 with Estrela da Amadora after extra time in the final yesterday.

Farense, the first Second Division club to reach the final since 1962, will have another chance in the replay next Sunday.



Pavarotti (left) accepts the applause of the audience. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Italy honours soccer legends

MILAN, Italy, May 28 (Reuters): Soccer-mad Italy honoured the world's superstar players yesterday with a gala concert by opera singer Luciano Pavarotti just 13 days before the kick-off in the World Cup finals.

The ebullient Pavarotti, one of the world's leading tenors and also a passionate Juventus soccer fan, sang to soccer giants from eight countries which have won the World Cup, headed by the legendary Pele of three-times champion Brazil.

Also among those invited to the gala evening, televised live to 37 countries, were the captain of 1978 winners Argentina, Daniel Passarella, and his inspirational countryman Diego Maradona.

Police in Sardinia, expected flashpoint of crowd violence during next month's World Cup soccer, rehearsed yesterday their anti-hooligan tactics with riot gear and dogs at a local match.

Euphoric fans of local team Cagliari, celebrating their recent promotion into the First Division, filed into the stadium past hundreds of police.

More than 3,000 police will be drafted in to Sardinia to face English and Dutch supporters, who include Europe's most notorious hooligans, during the month-long spectacular which starts on June 8.

A paramilitary police spokesman said the display of some 20 armoured cars, dogs, and plastic riot shields did not dampen the fans' enthusiasm.

"Our rehearsal went very well, there were no problems. Everybody was good-humoured, it was one big party," he said.

Two helicopters flew above the capacity crowd of some 45,000 until shortly before the match started between Cagliari and Triestina.

Police carrying rifles patrolled the perimeter of the pitch for the entire game, a 1-1 draw. Before the kick-off, England national team manager Bobby Robson, who arrived in Cagliari with his squad on Friday, posed for photographs with the two Italian teams to cheers from the crowd.

The mayor of Florence was given a cool reception by Italy's top soccer official at the weekend after trying to play down recent violence by the city's infamous hooligans against Italian World Cup players.

"I'm not here to ask forgiveness," Mayor Giorgio Morales told Antonio Mattarese, president of Italy's Soccer Federation at a meeting team sources described yesterday as tense.



Pele (left) and Maradona at the concert. (Reuters wirephoto)



Armed policemen watch Cagliari fans during the full security rehearsal. (Reuters wirephoto)



A sharpshooter in mediaeval costume gets ready to take his turn at a festival in Gubbio, Italy, where the Brazilian World Cup squad is training. (Reuters wirephoto)



Crowe: hit 65 off 61 balls



